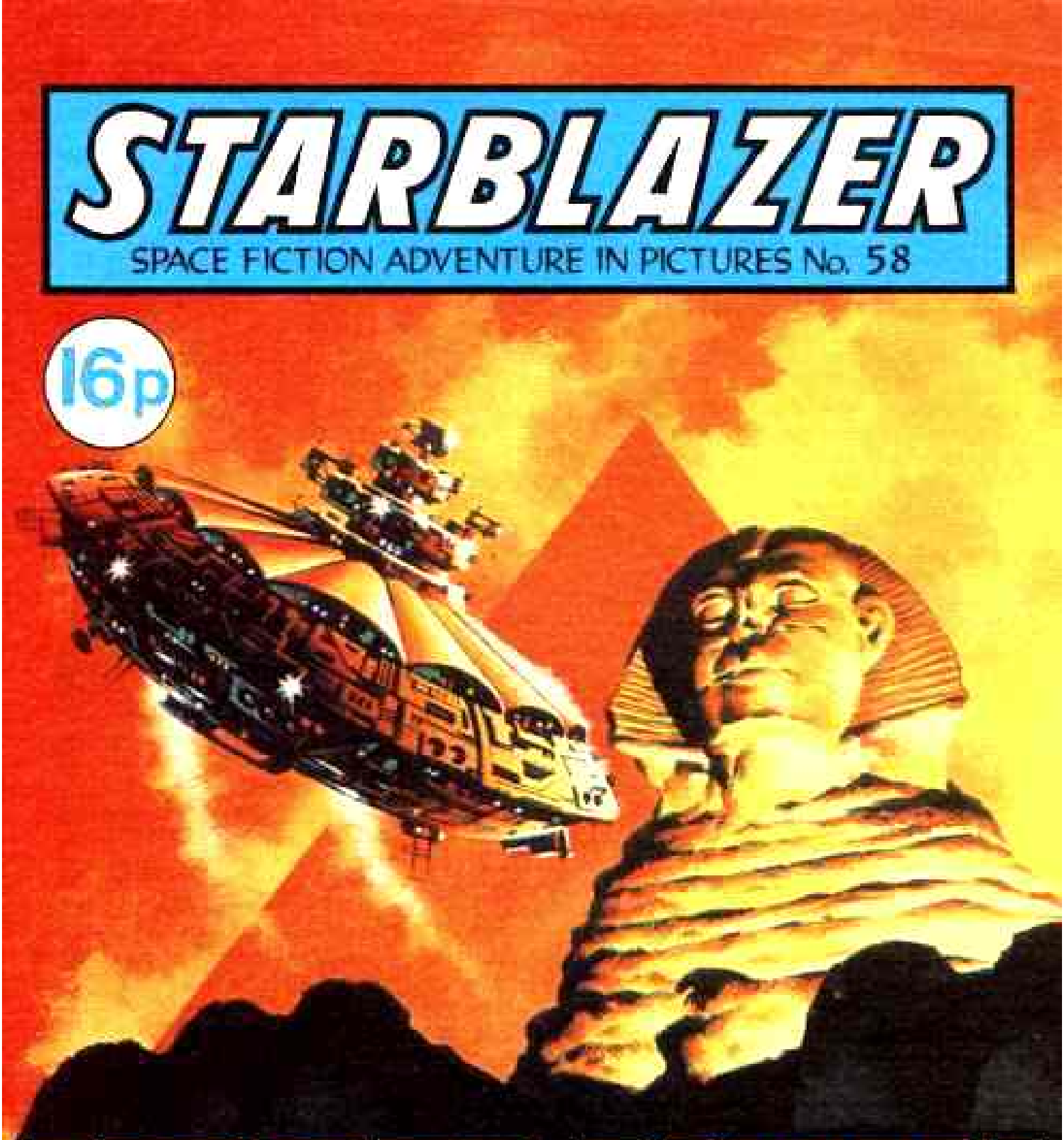
STARBLAZER

SPACE FICTION ADVENTURE IN PICTURES No. 58

16p



PYRAMID POWER!

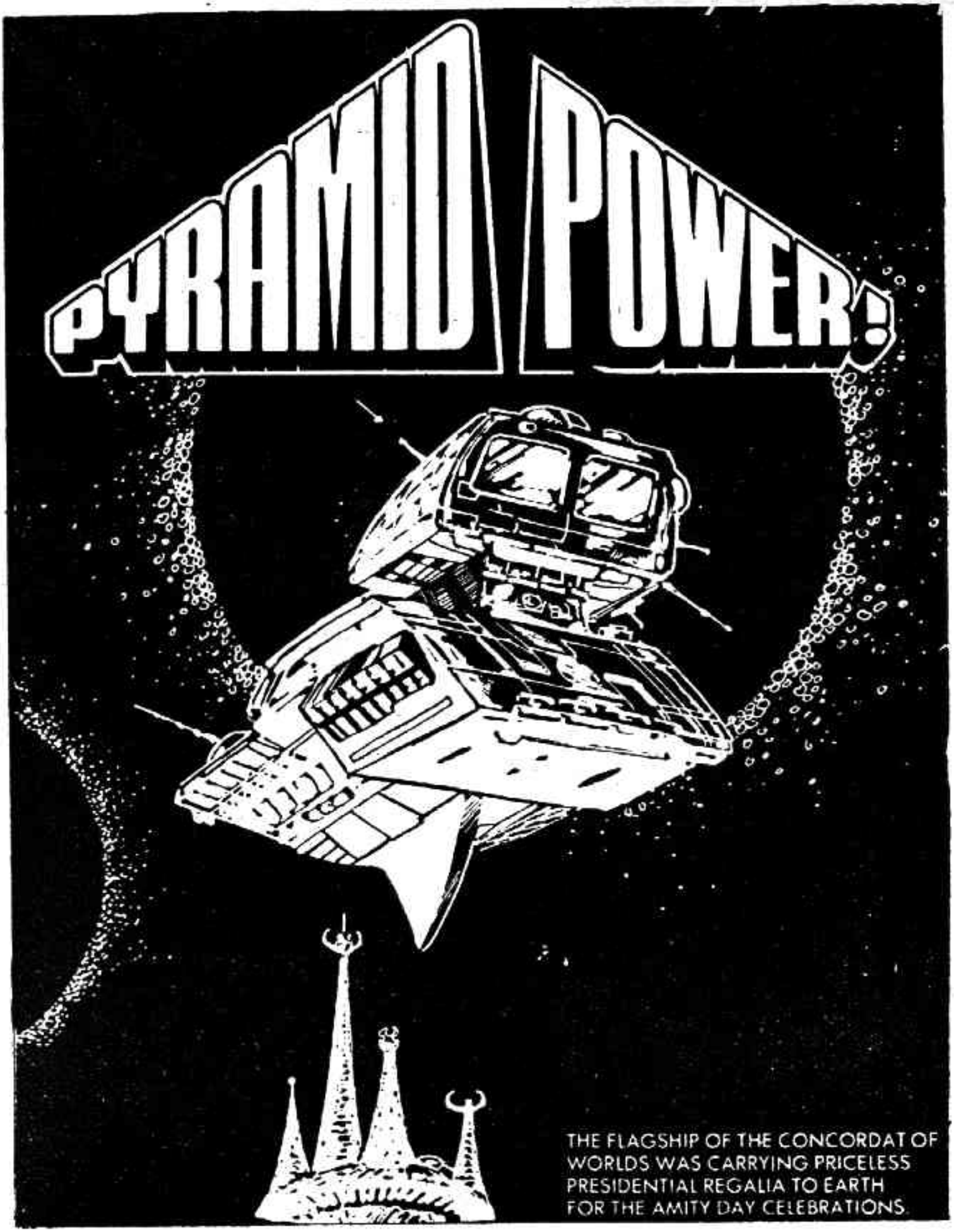
STARBLAZER

After the Great Galactic War of 2482 an uneasy truce was established. Many worlds joined a concordat to forge a lasting peace, but the most powerful single nation, the Pugnarions, declined to take an active part. They saw peacekeeping duties as an increased burden on their powerful spacefleet's patrolling capabilities.

Eventually, in 2492, the Pugnarions were persuaded to take part in the Amity Day celebrations. In honour of this event they agreed to display their legendary symbol of power—the priceless ancient diamond—The Pyramid of Pugnaria. A Concordat vessel was sent to transport the diamond along with other treasures to Centros, the Concordat capital.

eldubya/iodine

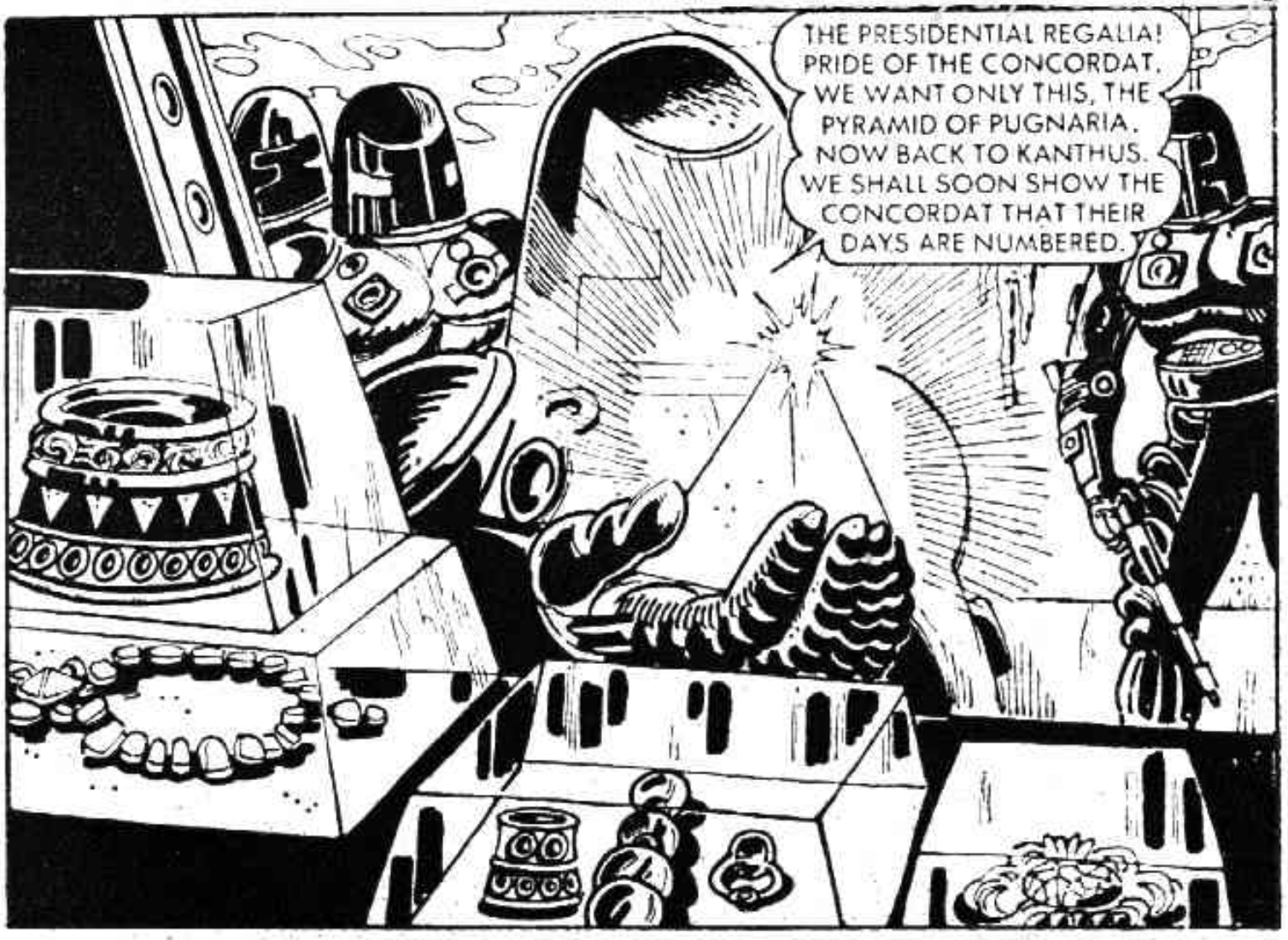
PYRAMID POWER!

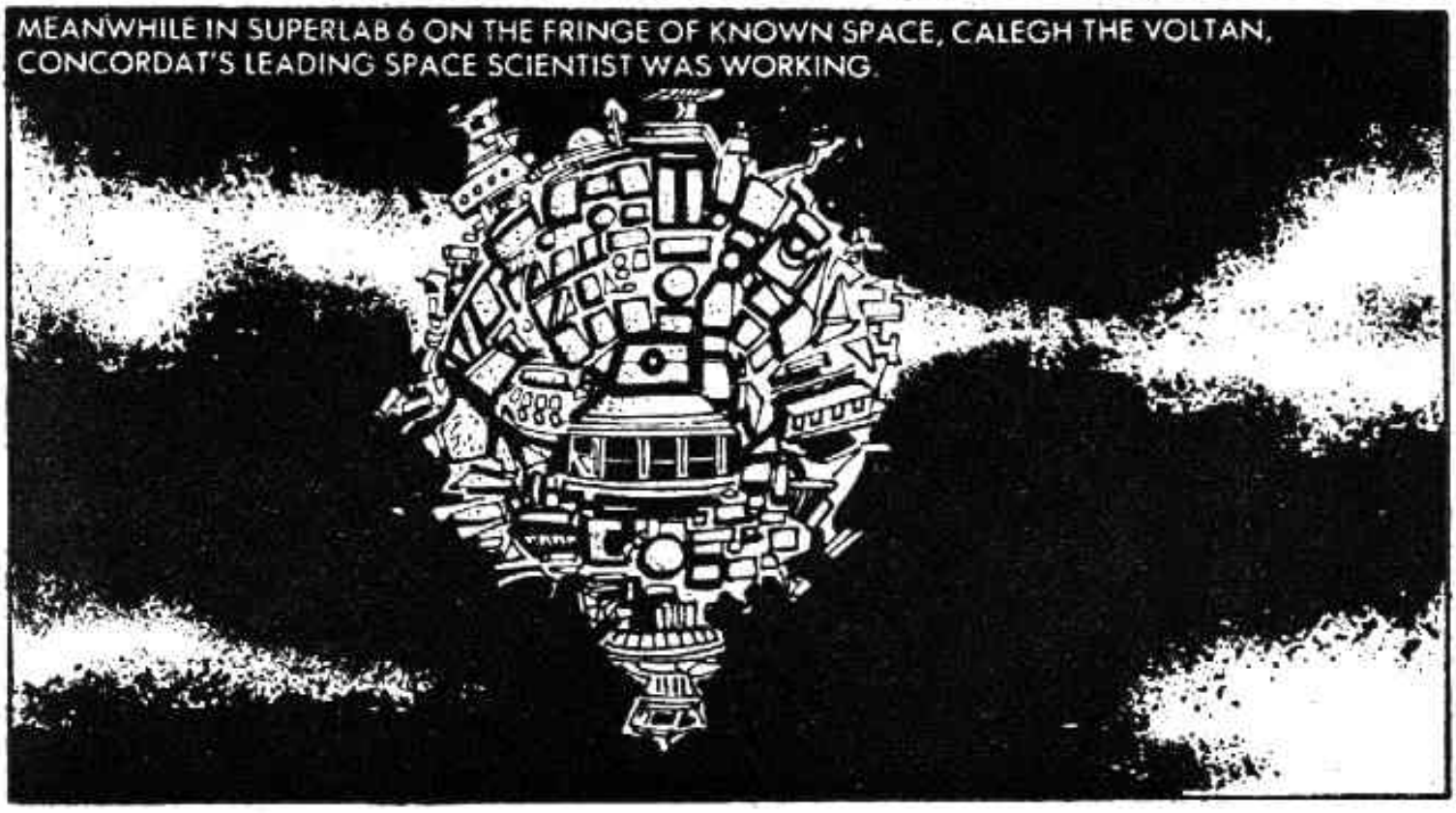


THE FLAGSHIP OF THE CONCORDAT OF WORLDS WAS CARRYING PRICELESS PRESIDENTIAL REGALIA TO EARTH FOR THE AMITY DAY CELEBRATIONS.

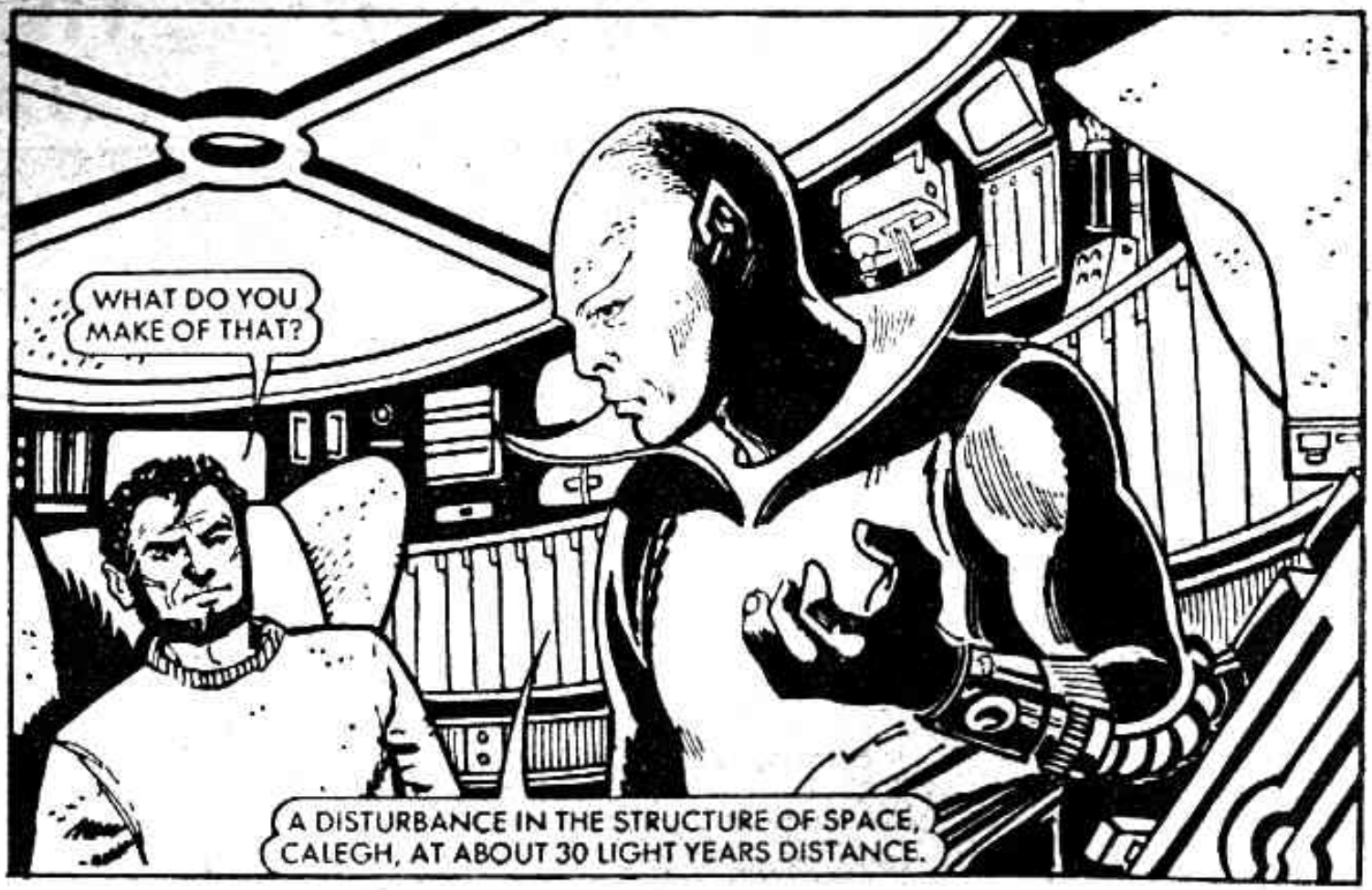
BUT IN DEEP SPACE A WARP STRIKER HIT THE FLAGSHIP.
FORCE ATTACK FROM AN UNIDENTIFIED SHIP! CAPTAIN, OUR SCREENS ARE USELESS . . .

SHORTLY AFTER, A BOARDING PARTY ARRIVED ON THE CONCORDAT SHIP.
THEY ARE ALL VICTIMS OF THE FORCE PROJECTION. QUICKLY NOW, TO THE STRONGROOM.

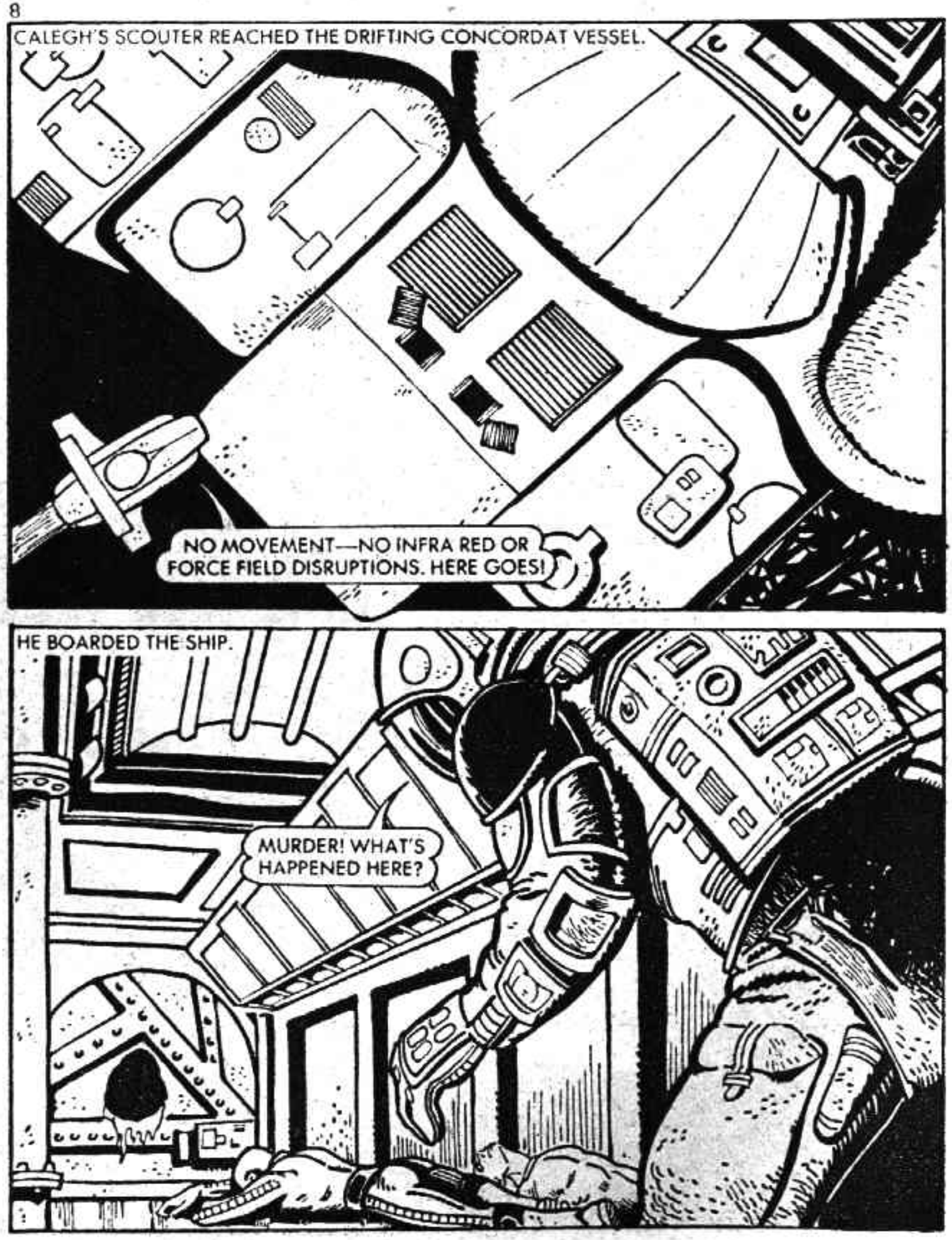

THE PRESIDENTIAL REGALIA! PRIDE OF THE CONCORDAT. WE WANT ONLY THIS, THE PYRAMID OF PUGNARIA. NOW BACK TO KANTHUS. WE SHALL SOON SHOW THE CONCORDAT THAT THEIR DAYS ARE NUMBERED.


MEANWHILE IN SUPERLAB 6 ON THE FRINGE OF KNOWN SPACE, CALEGH THE VOLTAN, CONCORDAT'S LEADING SPACE SCIENTIST WAS WORKING.

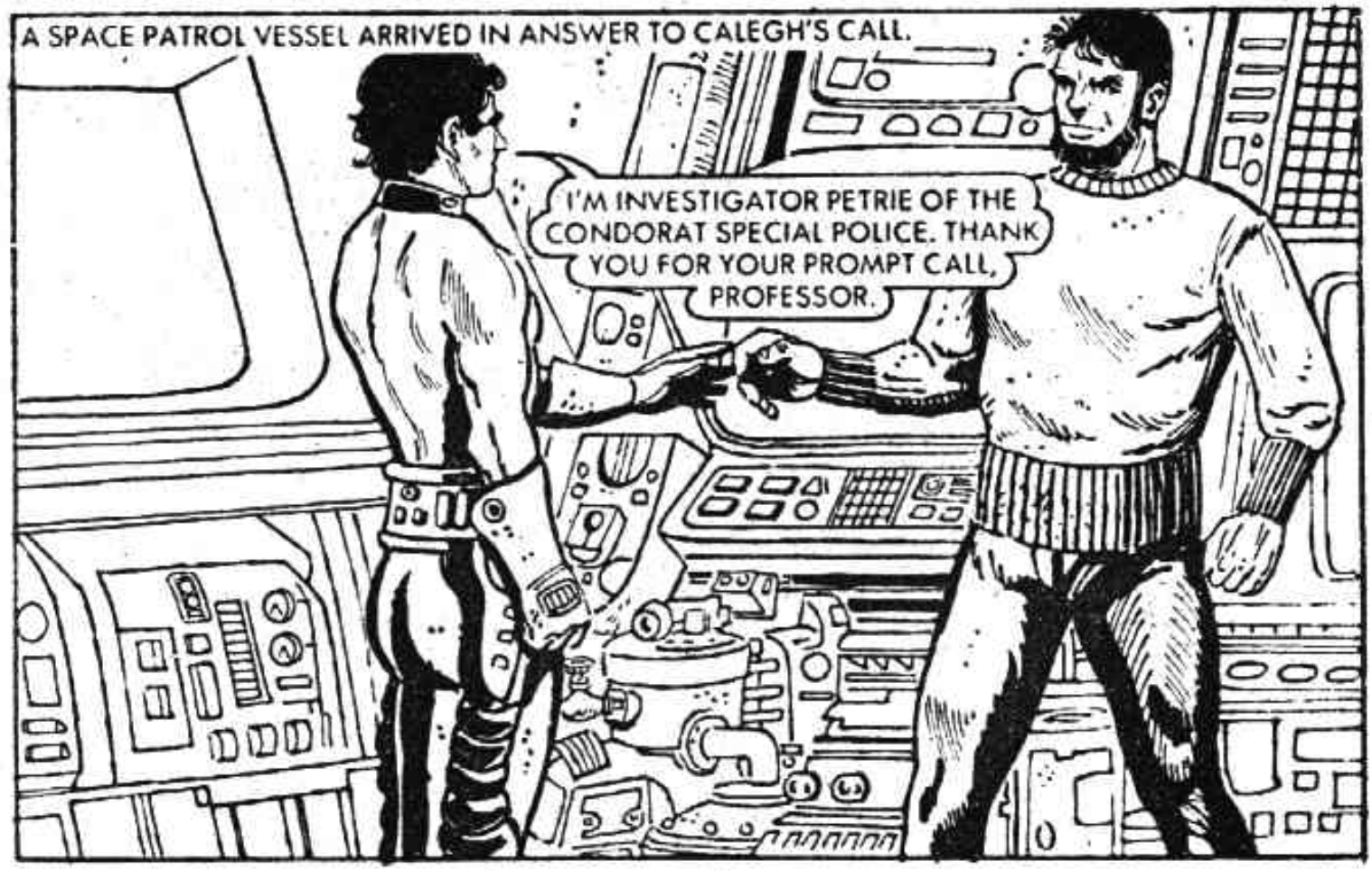
SERIF! COME HERE AND LOOK AT THIS.

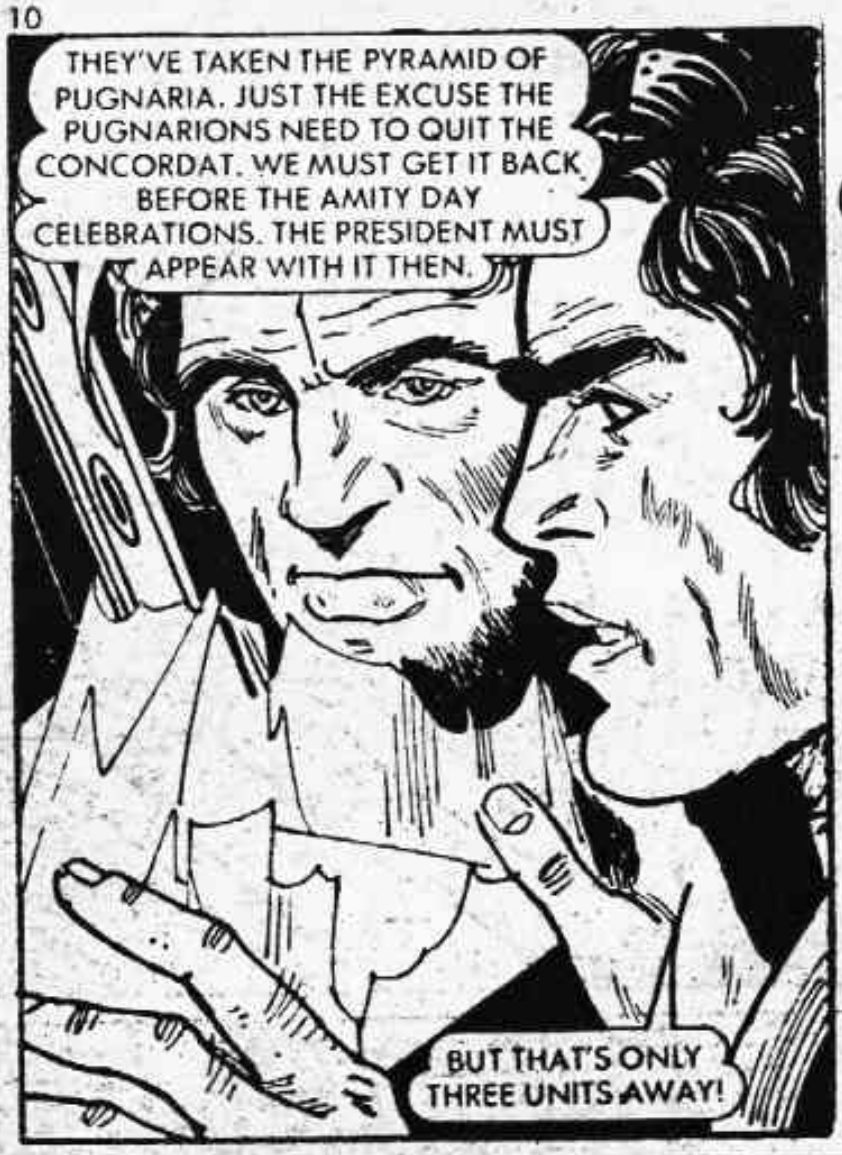

WHAT DO YOU MAKE OF THAT?
A DISTURBANCE IN THE STRUCTURE OF SPACE, CALEGH, AT ABOUT 30 LIGHT YEARS DISTANCE.

BUT LOOK AT THE SIZE OF IT! TAKE OVER HERE, I'M GOING TO HAVE A LOOK.
CALEGH SET OFF IN THE SCOUT SHIP.
KEEP A TIGHT BEAM ON ME, SERIF.
I SHALL FOLLOW YOU CAREFULLY ALL THE WAY, CALEGH.


CALEGH'S SCOUTER REACHED THE DRIFTING CONCORDAT VESSEL.
NO MOVEMENT—NO INFRA RED OR FORCE FIELD DISRUPTIONS. HERE GOES!
HE BOARDED THE SHIP.
MURDER! WHAT'S HAPPENED HERE?

STRANGE PIRATES! THEY KILL THE CREW AND LEAVE PRECIOUS STONES BEHIND! THIS IS A JOB FOR THE SPACE PATROL.

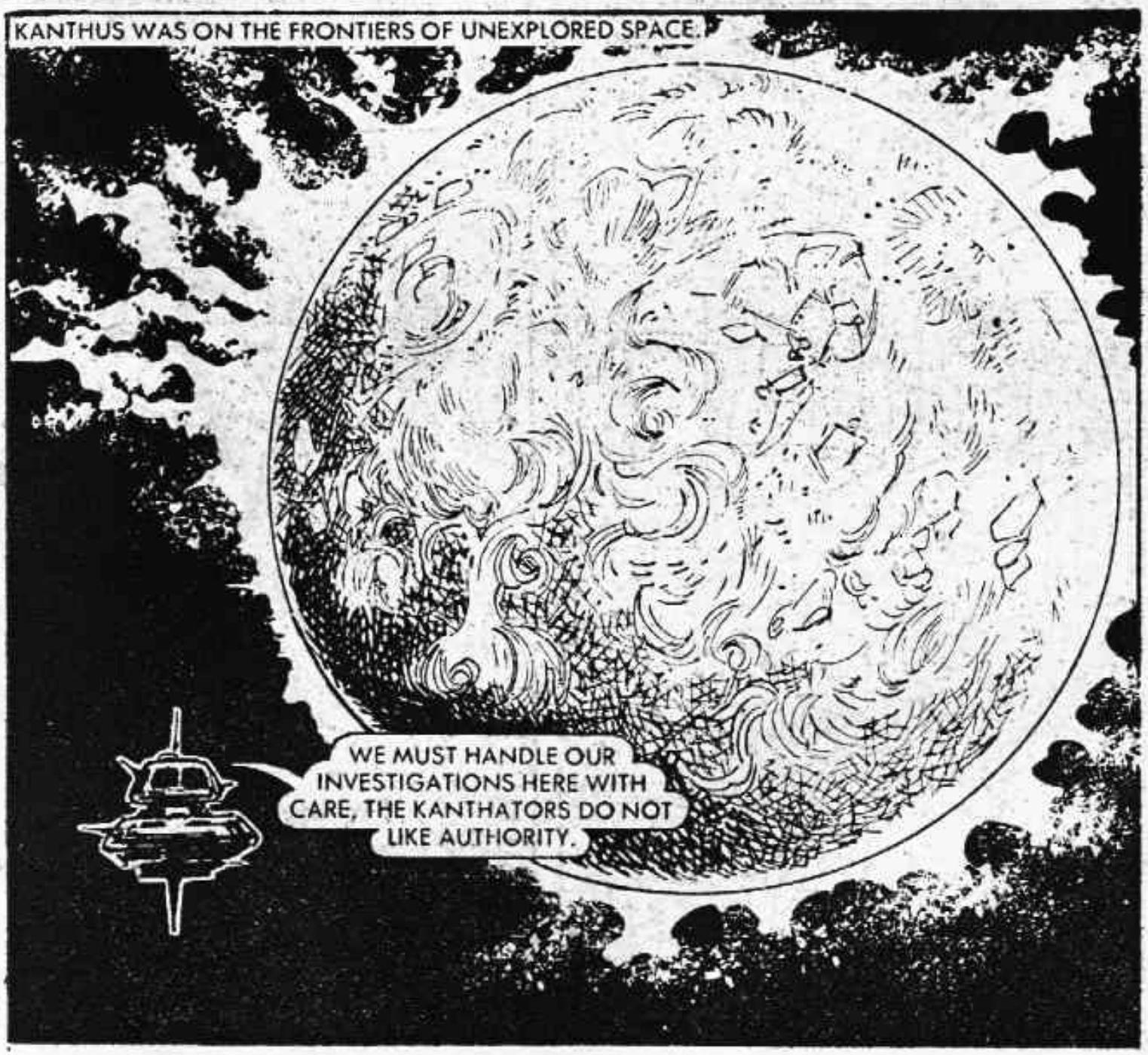

A SPACE PATROL VESSEL ARRIVED IN ANSWER TO CALEGH'S CALL.
I'M INVESTIGATOR PETRIE OF THE CONDORAT SPECIAL POLICE. THANK YOU FOR YOUR PROMPT CALL, PROFESSOR.


THEY'VE TAKEN THE PYRAMID OF PUGNARIA. JUST THE EXCUSE THE PUGNARIONS NEED TO QUIT THE CONCORDAT. WE MUST GET IT BACK, BEFORE THE AMITY DAY CELEBRATIONS. THE PRESIDENT MUST APPEAR WITH IT THEN.
BUT THAT'S ONLY THREE UNITS AWAY!

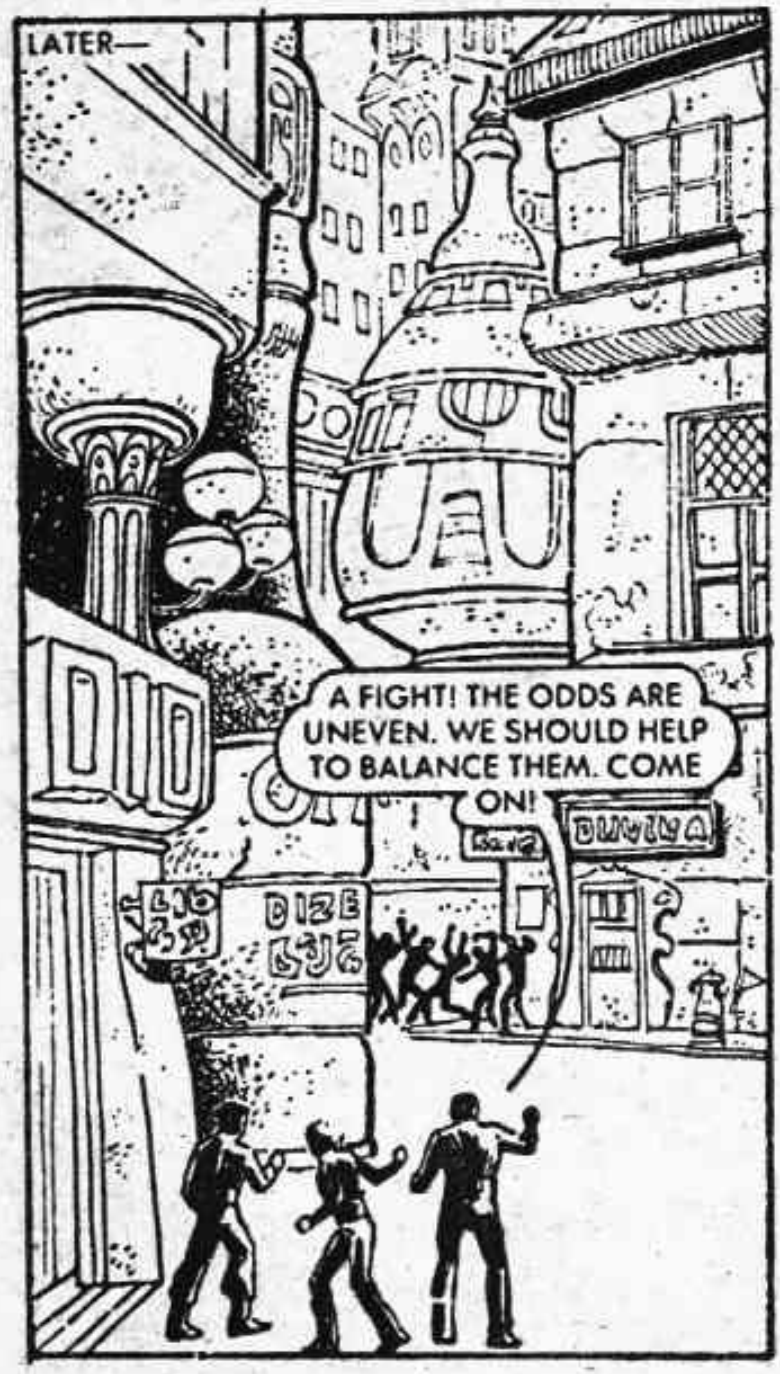
THE VIDLOG SECURITY RECORDER WAS PLAYED BACK.
THE SECURITY TAPES COVER ALL PARTS OF THE SHIP. THE PIRATE MADE A REFERENCE TO 'KANTHUS.'
A FRONTIER WORLD, ROUGH AS A DRAGON'S TAIL AND A THOUSAND LIGHT YEARS FROM NOWHERE!

PETRIE REPORTED TO HIS SECTOR CHIEF.
YOU MUST GET THE STOLEN JEWEL BACK. THE PUGNARIONS ARE WARY ENOUGH ALREADY. THEY'LL GO TO WAR IF THEY FIND OUT THEIR DIAMOND'S BEEN STOLEN FROM UNDER OUR NOSES.

I SHOULD BE HONOURED IF YOU WILL ASSIST ME IN THIS INVESTIGATION, PROFESSOR. YOUR KNOWLEDGE OF SPACE WILL BE INVALUABLE.
SERIF MUST COME AS WELL. FIRST STOP KANTHUS?


KANTHUS WAS ON THE FRONTIERS OF UNEXPLORED SPACE.
WE MUST HANDLE OUR INVESTIGATIONS HERE WITH CARE, THE KANTHATORS DO NOT LIKE AUTHORITY.

WELCOME TO KANTHUS, GENTLEMEN. WE HAD NO WARNING OF YOUR ARRIVAL OR WE WOULD HAVE LAID ON A PROPER WELCOME.
WE WISH ONLY A SHORT COURTESY VISIT WITH TIME ENOUGH TO VIEW YOUR FINE CITY.


LATER—
A FIGHT! THE ODDS ARE UNEVEN. WE SHOULD HELP TO BALANCE THEM. COME ON!

THAT EVENS THINGS UP!

I STEPPED INTO THAT.
TAKE THAT!
THAT FINISHES THAT!

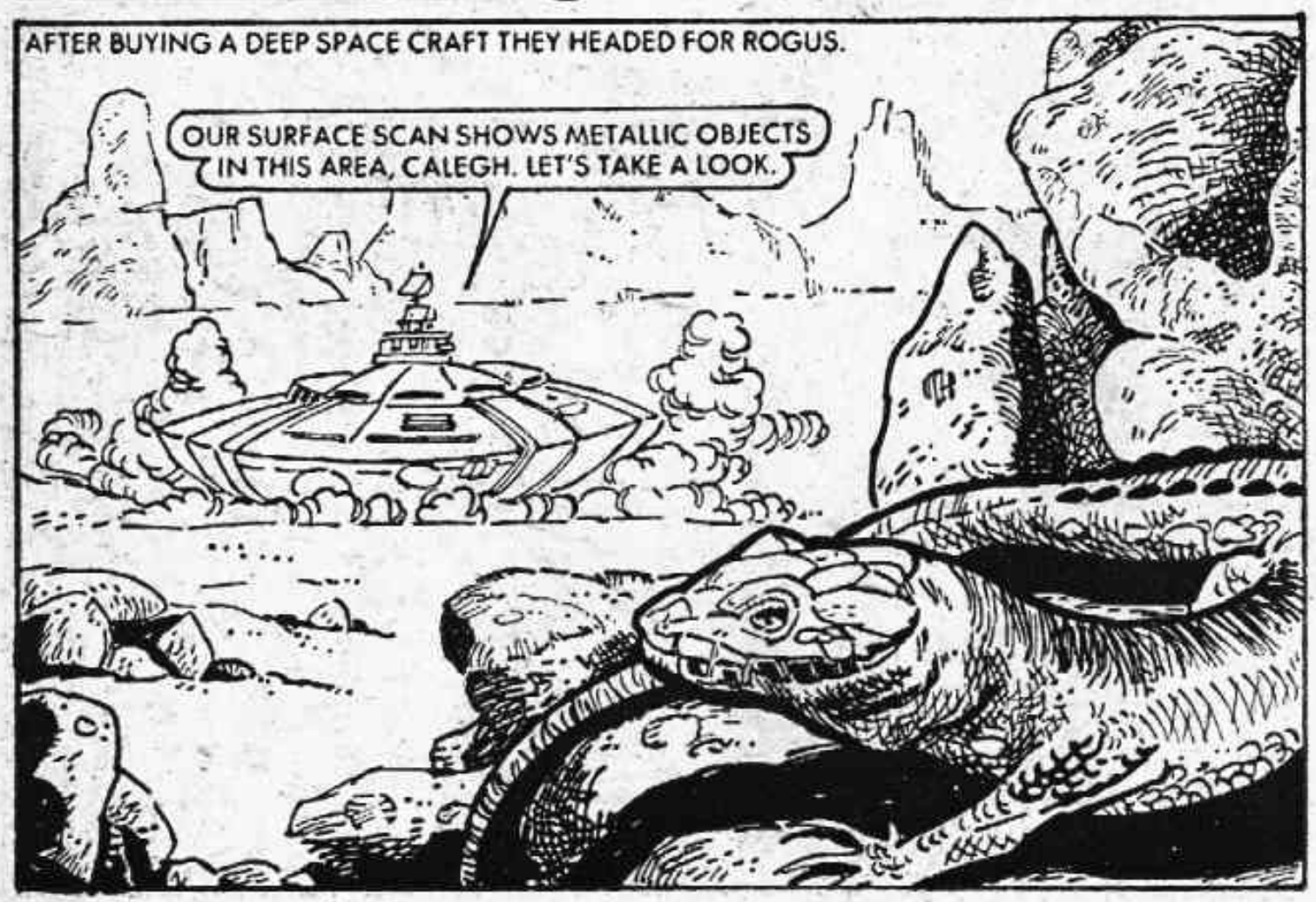
THANKS! I NEVER THOUGHT I WOULD BE GRATEFUL TO STRANGERS. THEY'D HAVE KILLED ME.
GRATITUDE IS UNNECESSARY. WHY WERE YOU BEING SUBJECTED TO THIS BEATING?
I GOT SEPARATED FROM MY WORKMATES. WE'VE JUST BEEN PAID OFF FROM THE PLANT FOR THE LAST SHIFT. THEY WERE AFTER MY CREDITS.
HEY YOU, GET AWAY FROM HIM!
WAIT! THEY HELPED ME.

RIOT POLICE! LET'S GET OUT OF HERE! THEY'LL MURDER US IF THEY CATCH US IN A GROUP THIS BIG! FOLLOW ME, I KNOW A PLACE.

THIS WAY, IT'S JUST AROUND THE NEXT CORNER.

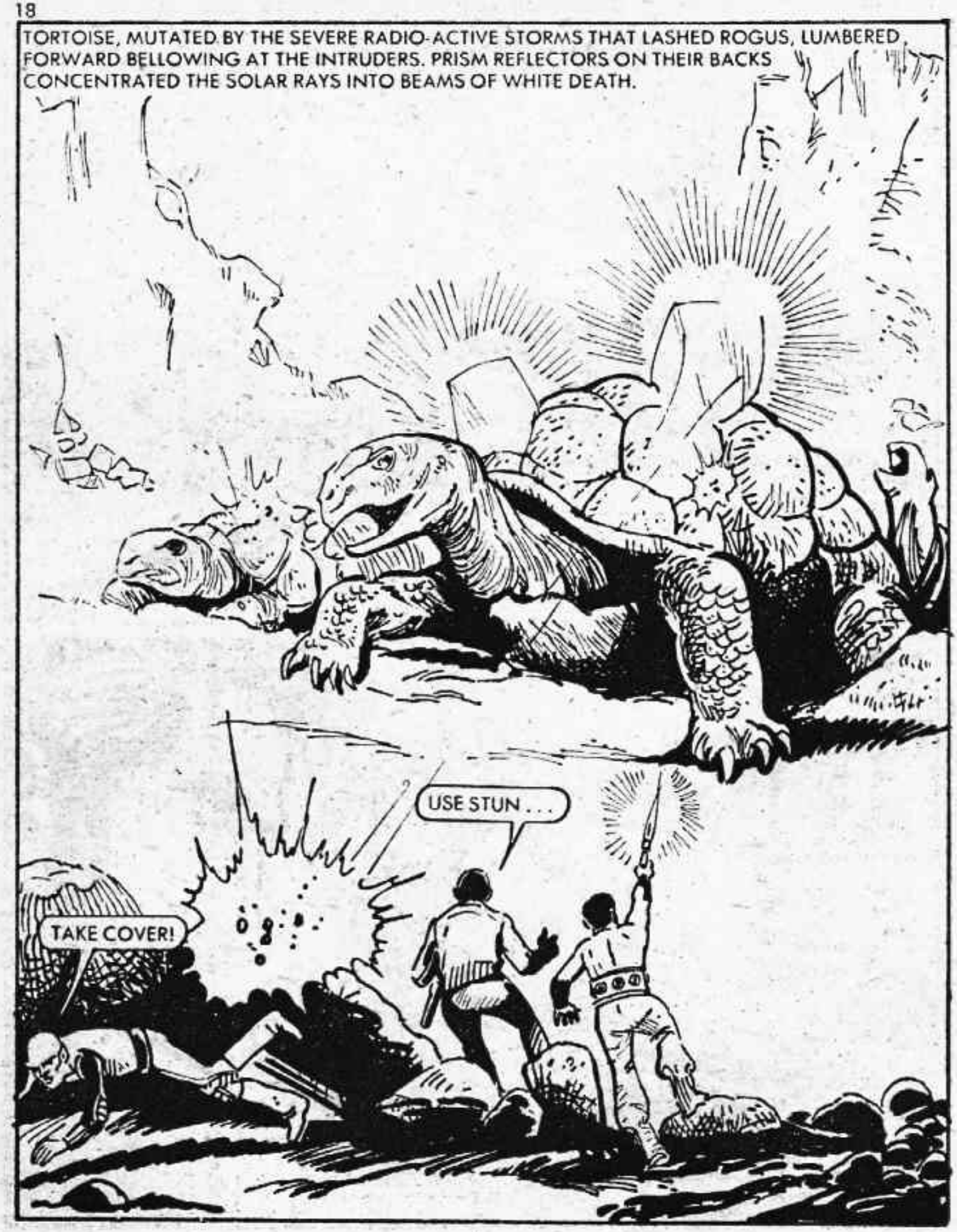
THEY SETTLED DOWN IN A FLUID REPLENISHMENT CENTRE.
I OWE YOU A FAVOUR. ANYTHING WE CAN DO?
MAYBE YOU CAN HELP. HAVE YOU NOTICED ANY UNUSUAL PEOPLE OR MOVEMENTS ON KANTHUS RECENTLY?

A LOT—UP UNTIL TWO DAYS AGO THE PLANET WAS CRAWLING WITH SPACEMEN WHO NEVER TOOK OFF THEIR SUITS. THEN THEY JUST DISAPPEARED!
WHERE TO?
ROGUS!
ROGUS! THAT'S IN SECTOR DD2. THAT IS INTERESTING. THANK YOU MEN, NOW WE MUST GO.


AFTER BUYING A DEEP SPACE CRAFT THEY HEADED FOR ROGUS.
OUR SURFACE SCAN SHOWS METALLIC OBJECTS IN THIS AREA, CALEGH. LET'S TAKE A LOOK.

THERE IT IS MEN! A DWELLING!

LOOK!
JUPITER'S THUNDER! WHAT'S THAT NOISE?

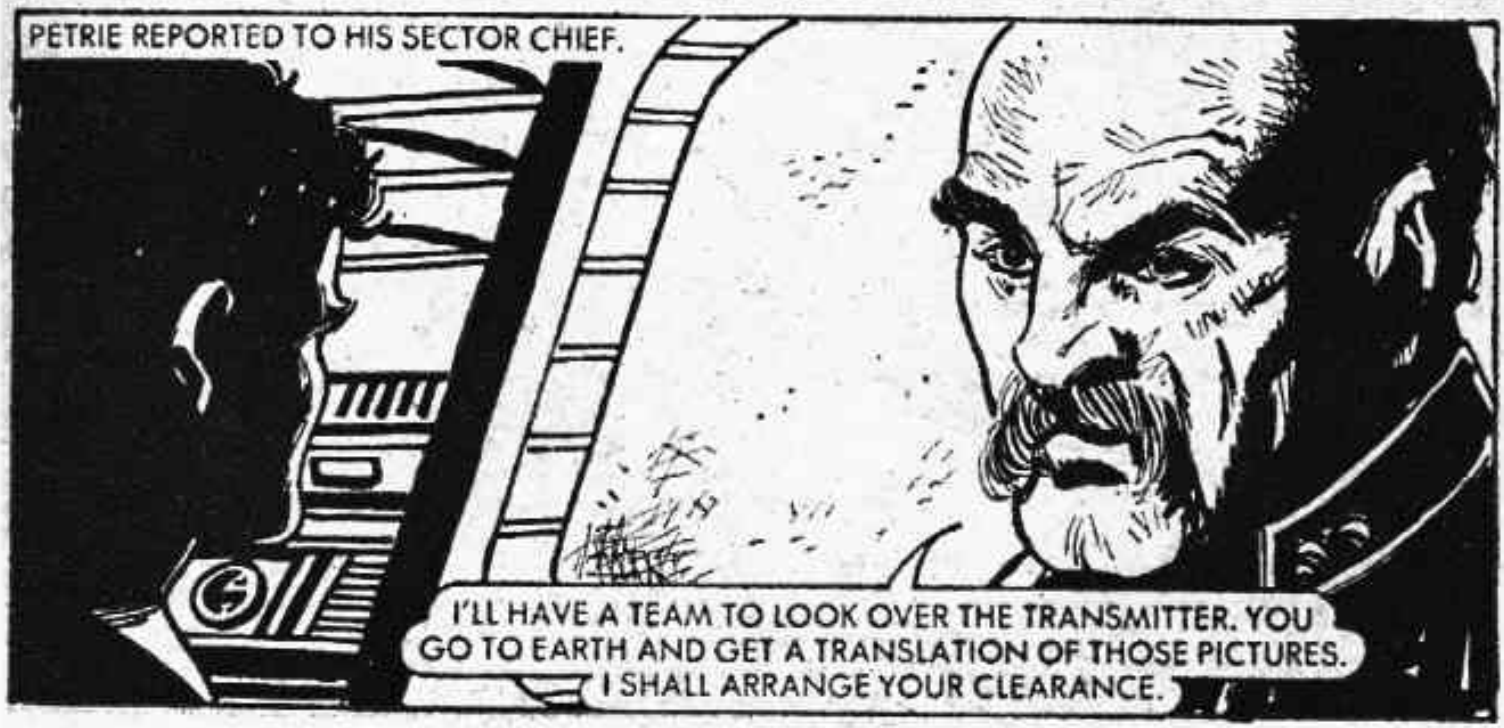

TORTOISE, MUTATED BY THE SEVERE RADIO-ACTIVE STORMS THAT LASHED ROGUS, LUMBERED FORWARD BELLOWING AT THE INTRUDERS. PRISM REFLECTORS ON THEIR BACKS CONCENTRATED THE SOLAR RAYS INTO BEAMS OF WHITE DEATH.
USE STUN . . .
TAKE COVER!

IT DIDN'T TAKE LONG TO FIND SOMETHING.

I RECOGNISE THESE DRAWINGS, CALEGH. HIEROGLYPHICS FROM THE MUSEUM PLANET EARTH! WHAT ARE THEY DOING HERE?
THIS IS SOME KIND OF TRANSMITTER!
IT IS DEFUNCT. PARTS HAVE BEEN REMOVED.
THE WEATHER'S CHANGING, SIR. TIME TO GET OUT!

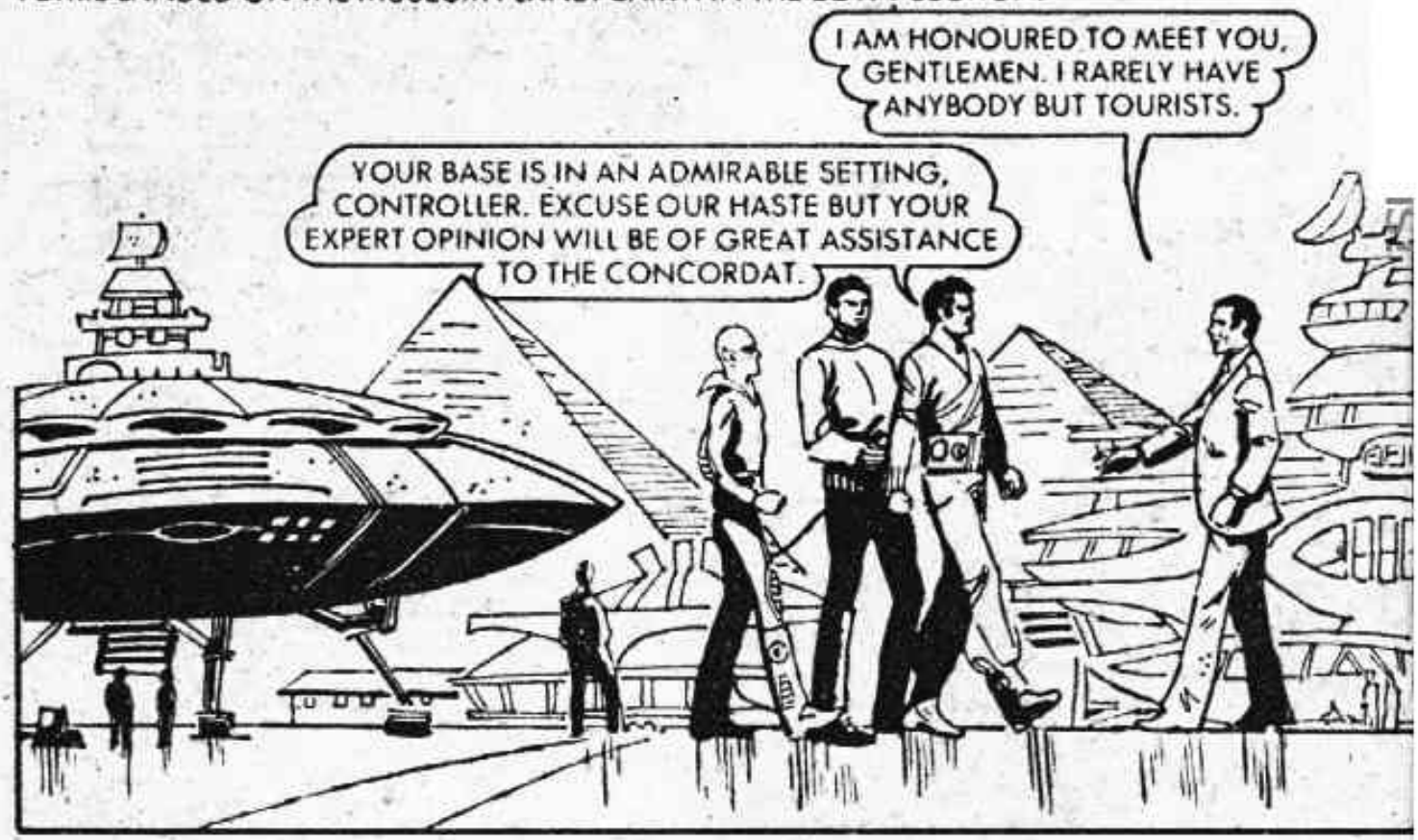
KEEP TOGETHER!

AT LAST! LET'S GET OUT OF HERE.


PETRIE REPORTED TO HIS SECTOR CHIEF.
I'LL HAVE A TEAM TO LOOK OVER THE TRANSMITTER. YOU GO TO EARTH AND GET A TRANSLATION OF THOSE PICTURES. I SHALL ARRANGE YOUR CLEARANCE.

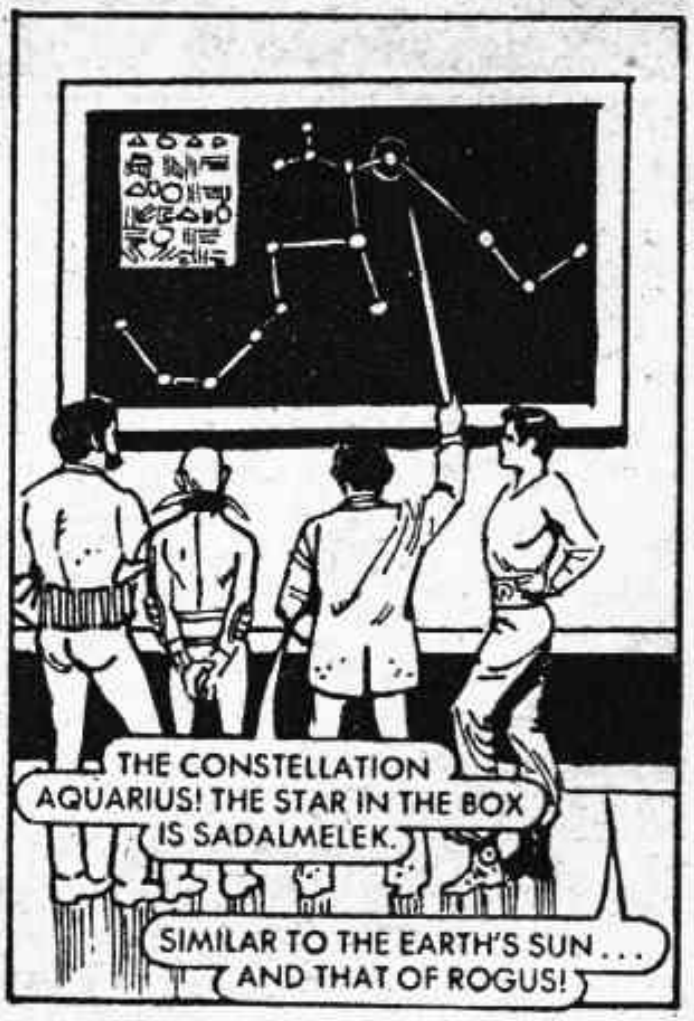
THE SHIP ENTERED THE TERRAN SOLAR SYSTEM.
WE HAVE AN INTERVIEW WITH THE CONTROLLER OF ANTIQUITIES. HE IS A PROFESSOR OF EARTH HISTORY AND AN EXPERT ON HIEROGLYPHICS.

PETRIE LANDED ON THE MUSEUM PLANET EARTH IN THE EGYPT SECTION.


I AM HONOURED TO MEET YOU, GENTLEMEN. I RARELY HAVE ANYBODY BUT TOURISTS.
YOUR BASE IS IN AN ADMIRABLE SETTING, CONTROLLER. EXCUSE OUR HASTE BUT YOUR EXPERT OPINION WILL BE OF GREAT ASSISTANCE TO THE CONCORDAT.

I HAVE SEEN THIS BEFORE—NOT SIX MONTHS AGO. A GROUP OF KANTHATORS AND TWO ALIEN GUESTS, WHO WOULD NOT REMOVE THEIR SPACE SUITS, BROUGHT IT TO ME FOR TRANSLATION. THESE ARE THE NOTES ONE OF THEM MADE.

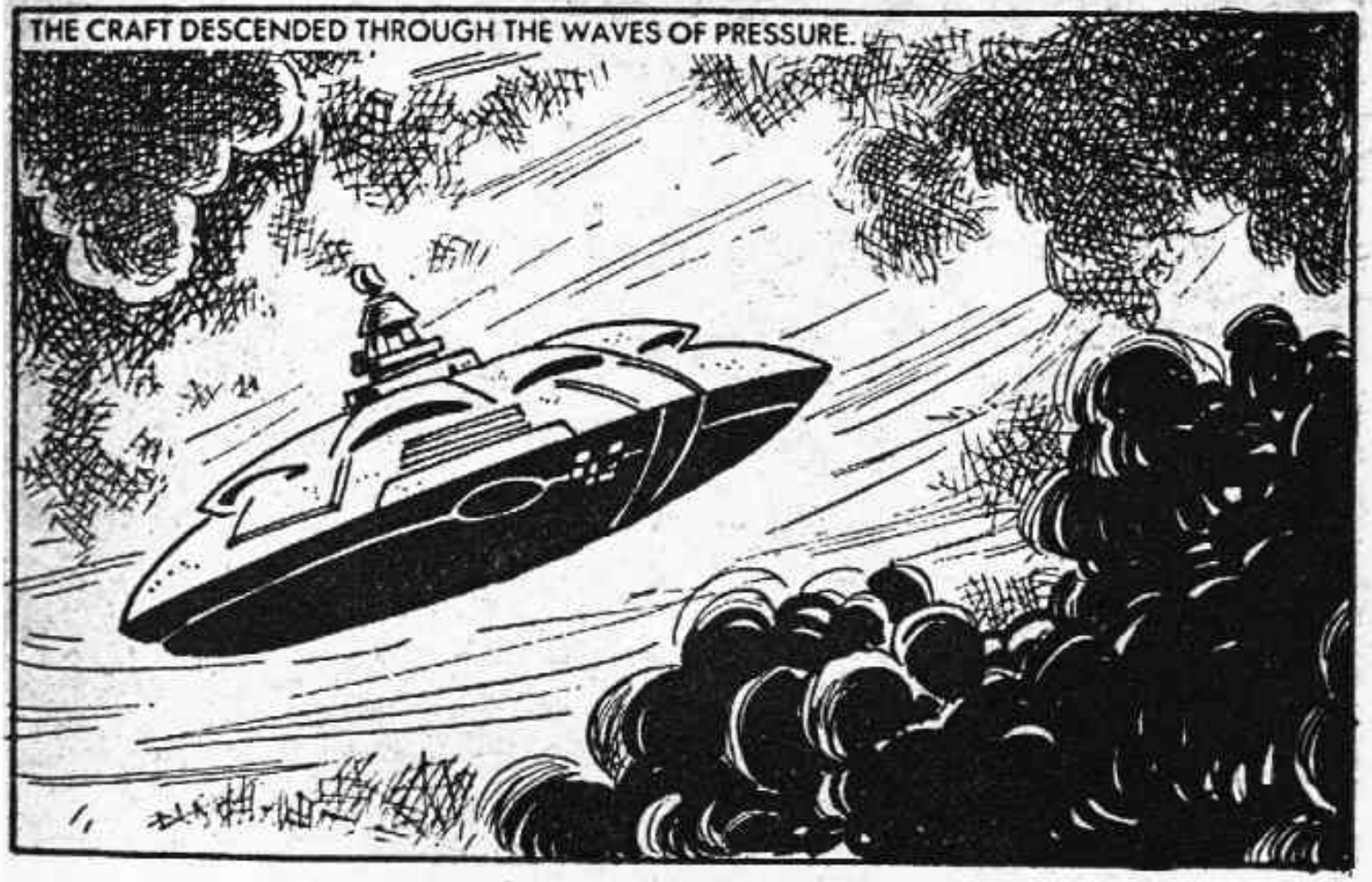
THEY DESCRIBE THE MAGICAL PROPERTIES OF THE PYRAMID SHAPE. THE PHARAOHS BELIEVED THAT PYRAMIDS COULD CHANNEL THE FORCES OF THE UNIVERSE AND GIVE THEM GREAT POWER.
DID THEY ASK ABOUT ANYTHING ELSE?


THE CONSTELLATION AQUARIUS! THE STAR IN THE BOX IS SADALMELEK.
SIMILAR TO THE EARTH'S SUN . . . AND THAT OF ROGUS!

I AM SORRY YOU CANNOT STAY LONGER. HERE IS A DETAILED TRANSCRIPT OF THE HIEROGLYPHICS. IT MAY BE OF USE TO YOU.
THANK YOU CONTROLLER, YOU HAVE TOLD US MORE THAT WE THOUGHT POSSIBLE.
THE CRAFT ACCELERATED INTO SPACE.
TO SADALMELEK WITH ALL POSSIBLE SPEED.

TWO UNITS LATER THE CRUISER STOOD OFF SADALMELEK.
THERE IS ONLY ONE PLANET. METHANE AND AMMONIA ATMOSPHERE OF TWICE STANDARD PRESSURE. TEMPERATURE ABOUT MINUS 40.

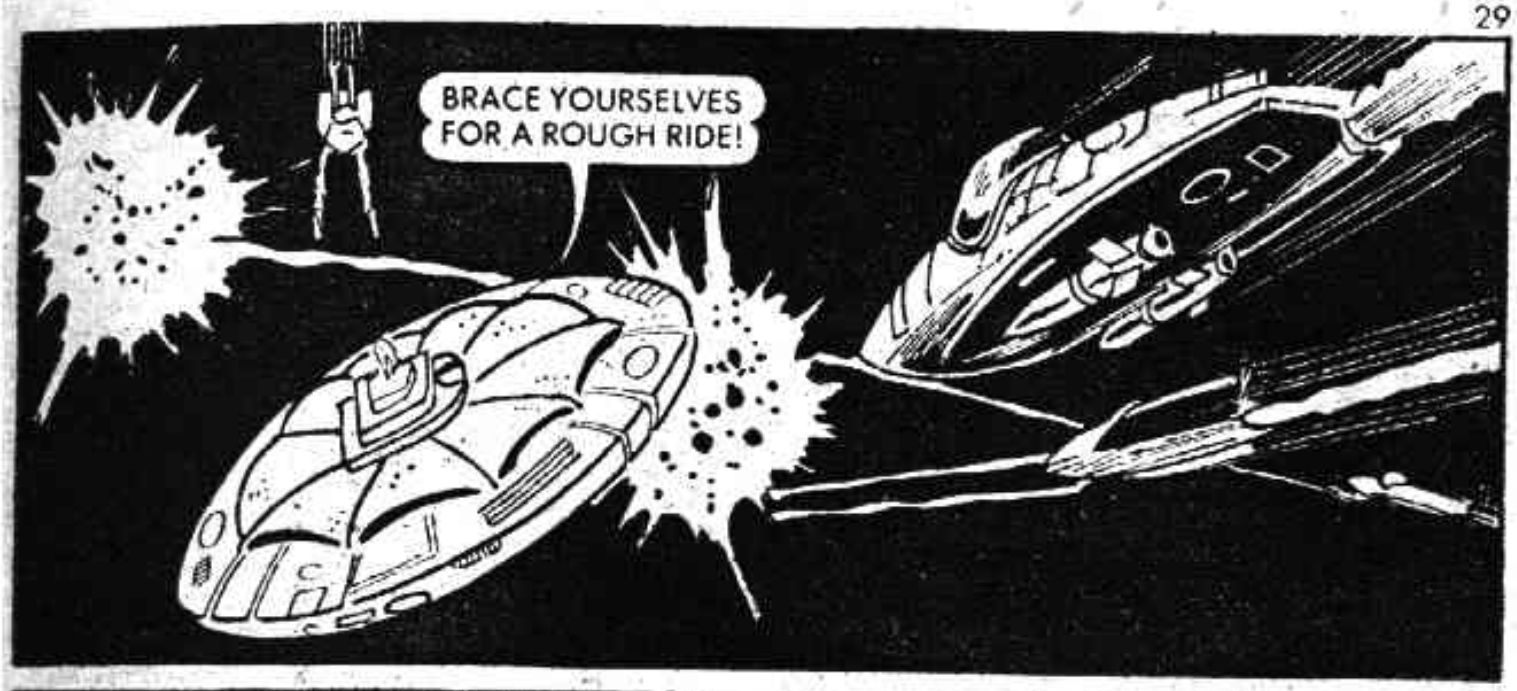
ION TRACES IN THE AREA OF THE PLANET, CALEGH. FADING FAST.
LET'S GET DOWN THERE AND TAKE A LOOK.

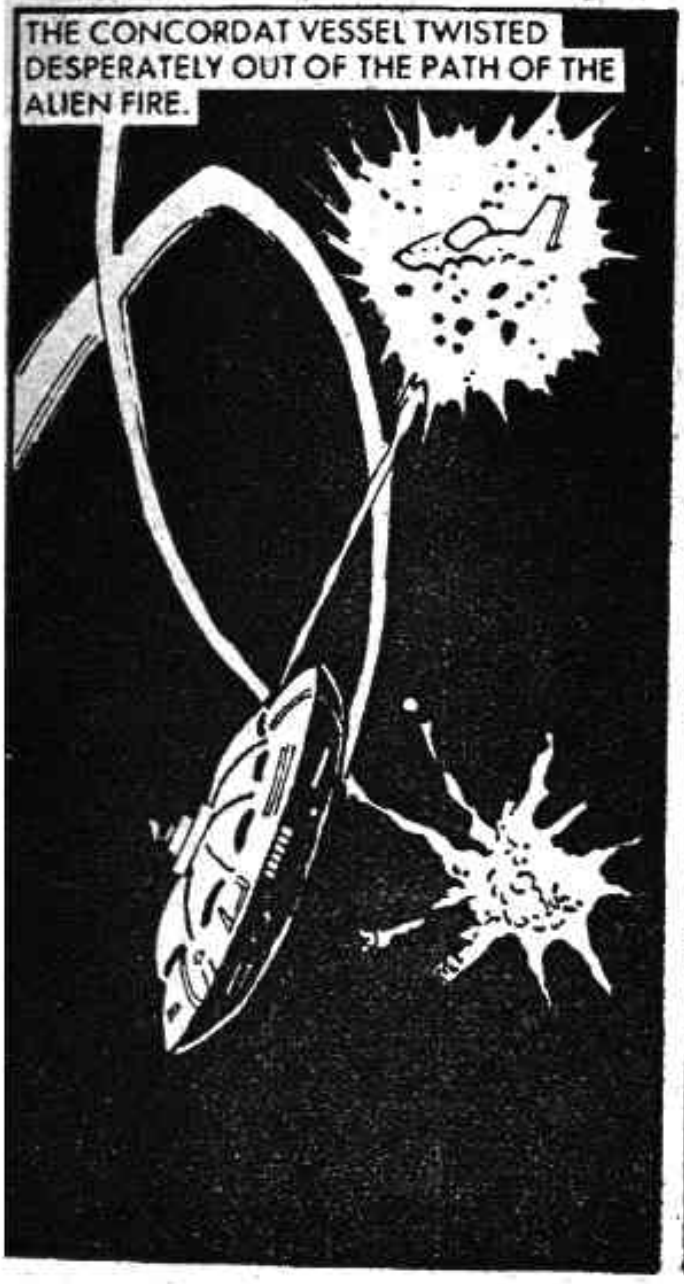

THE CRAFT DESCENDED THROUGH THE WAVES OF PRESSURE.

ONCE ON THE SURFACE CALEGH AND PETRIE BEGAN SEARCHING.
OUR SENSORS SHOW TRACES OF A PULSE EMISSION FROM THIS AREA. WE MUST FIND THE SOURCE.
WHAT AN INHOSPITABLE SPOT!
HERE IT IS! JUST LIKE THE MACHINE WE SAW ON ROGUS. AND IT'S BEEN USED RECENTLY.
YES, BUT FOR WHAT?
BACK ON THE CRAFT.
COMMUNICATION FROM THE CHIEF OF POLICE. I SHALL PUT IT UP ON THE MAIN SCREEN.

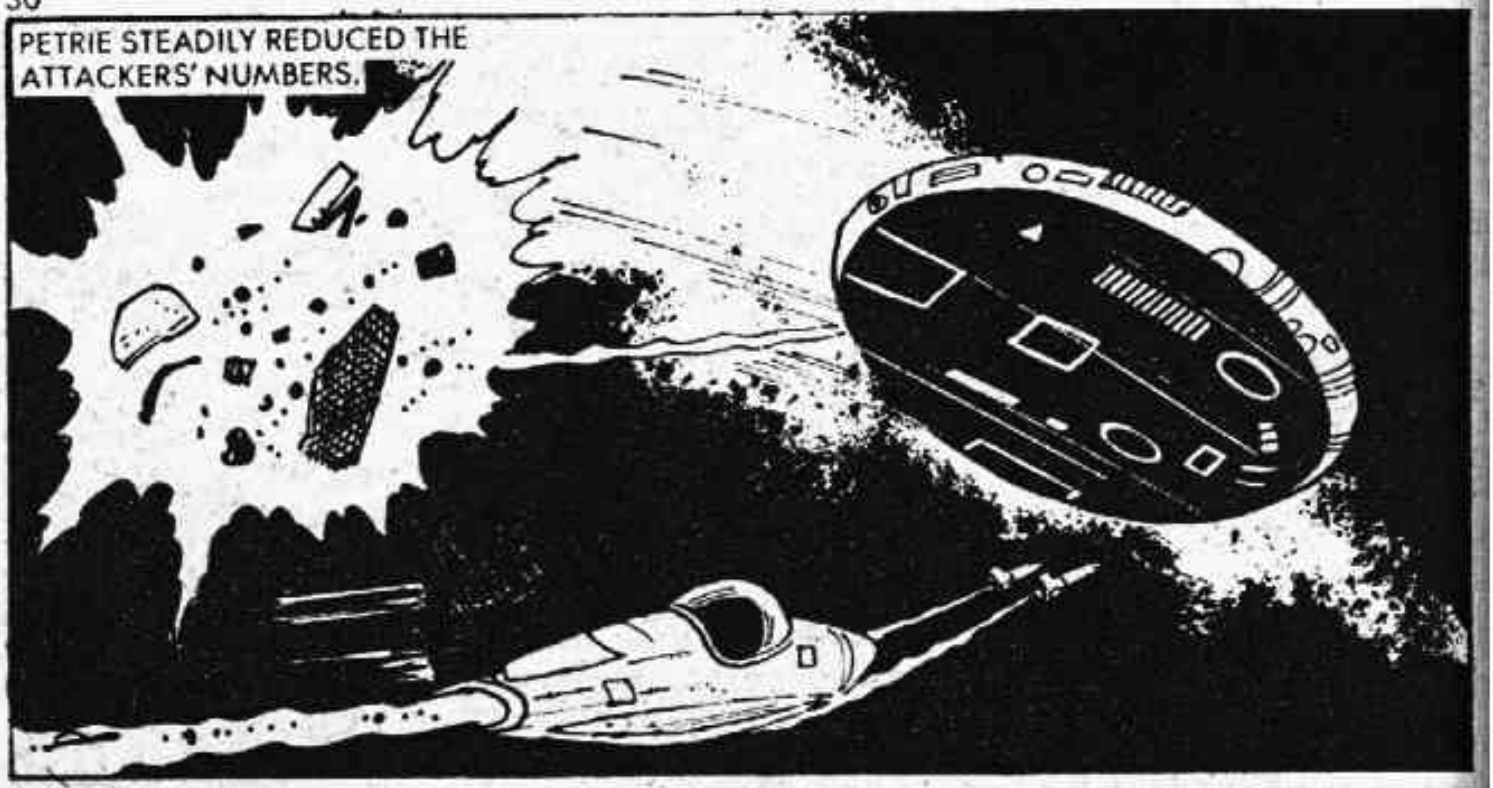
I HAVE SOME INFORMATION THAT MAY HELP YOU. THE NAVAL DEFENCE FRIGATE, HILDEGAARD, WAS DESTROYED AT THE EDGE OF THE CLOUD IN SECTOR THREE ONE GALACTIC DAY AGO. SOME OF THE CREW ESCAPED AND REPORTED A WARPING OF SPACE DURING THE ATTACK. YOUR MYSTERY MACHINE ON ROGUS IS AN ENERGY AMPLIFIER OF UNKNOWN DESIGN . . . AND THE PUGNARIONS HAVE GOT WIND THAT SOMETHING IS WRONG. I HOPE YOUR INVESTIGATIONS ARE SHOWING SOME MOVEMENT . . .

A SHOCKING SIGHT GREETED THEM IN SECTOR THREE.
DECIMATED! WHAT KIND OF ENEMY ARE WE UP AGAINST?
DID YOU SEE THE RADIATION ANALYSERS CALEGH? THEY SHOW THE SAME TYPE OF EMISSION AGAIN.
I SEE IT. FOLLOW THE RADIATION TRACK.
NOT A VERY LIKELY LOOKING PLACE FOR ALIEN ACTIVITY.
NEITHER WAS ROGUS, BUT THE INSTRUMENTS DON'T LIE. WE ARE ABOUT TO RECEIVE A VISITATION!

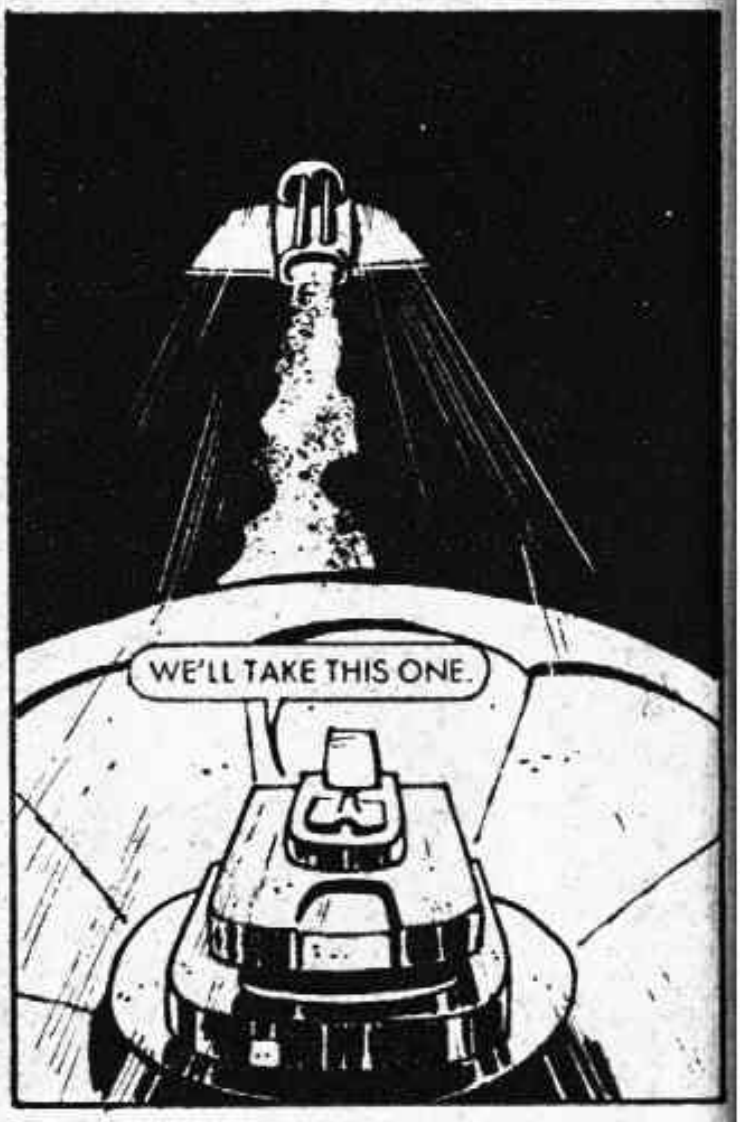

BRACE YOURSELVES FOR A ROUGH RIDE!

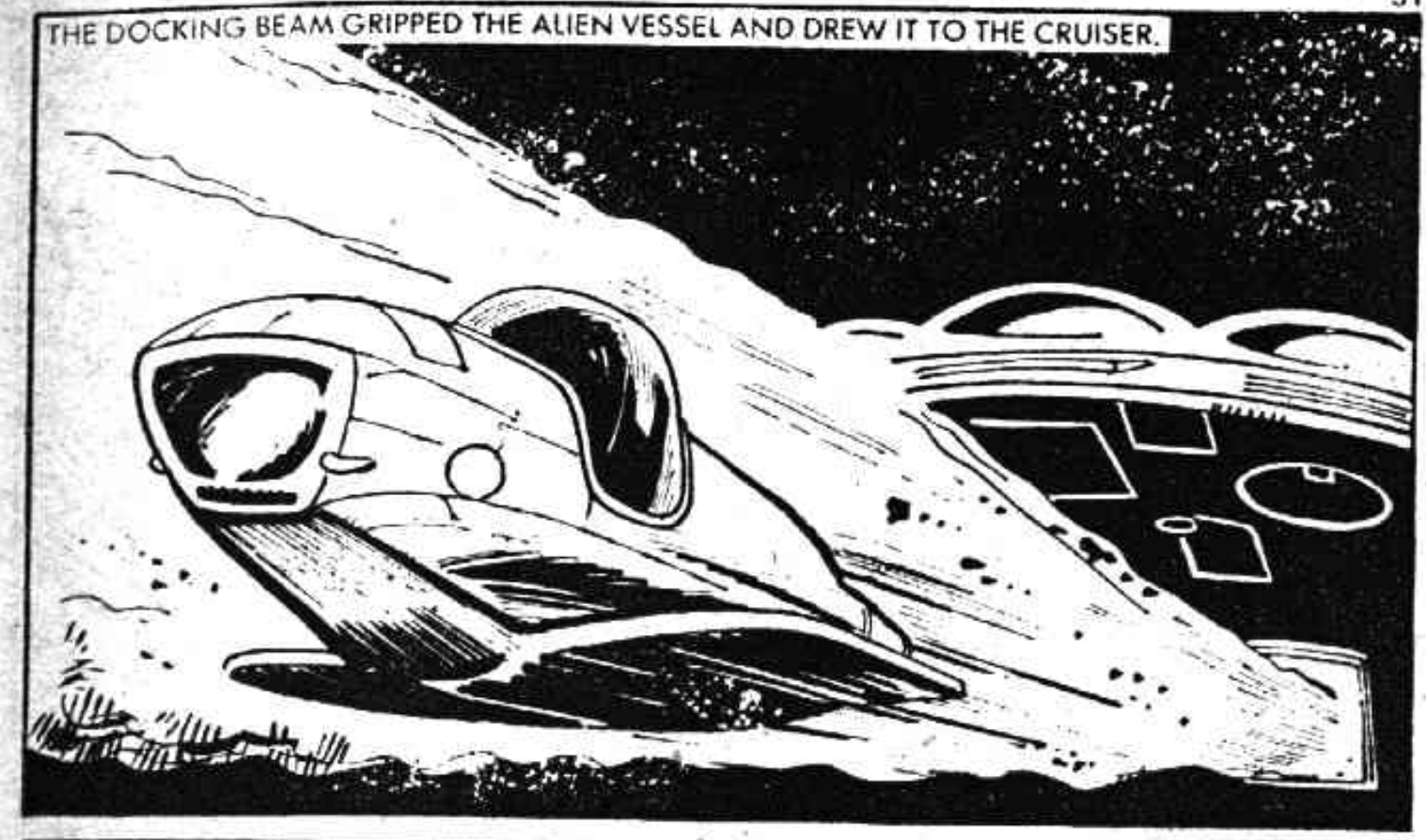

THE CONCORDAT VESSEL TWISTED DESPERATELY OUT OF THE PATH OF THE ALIEN FIRE.

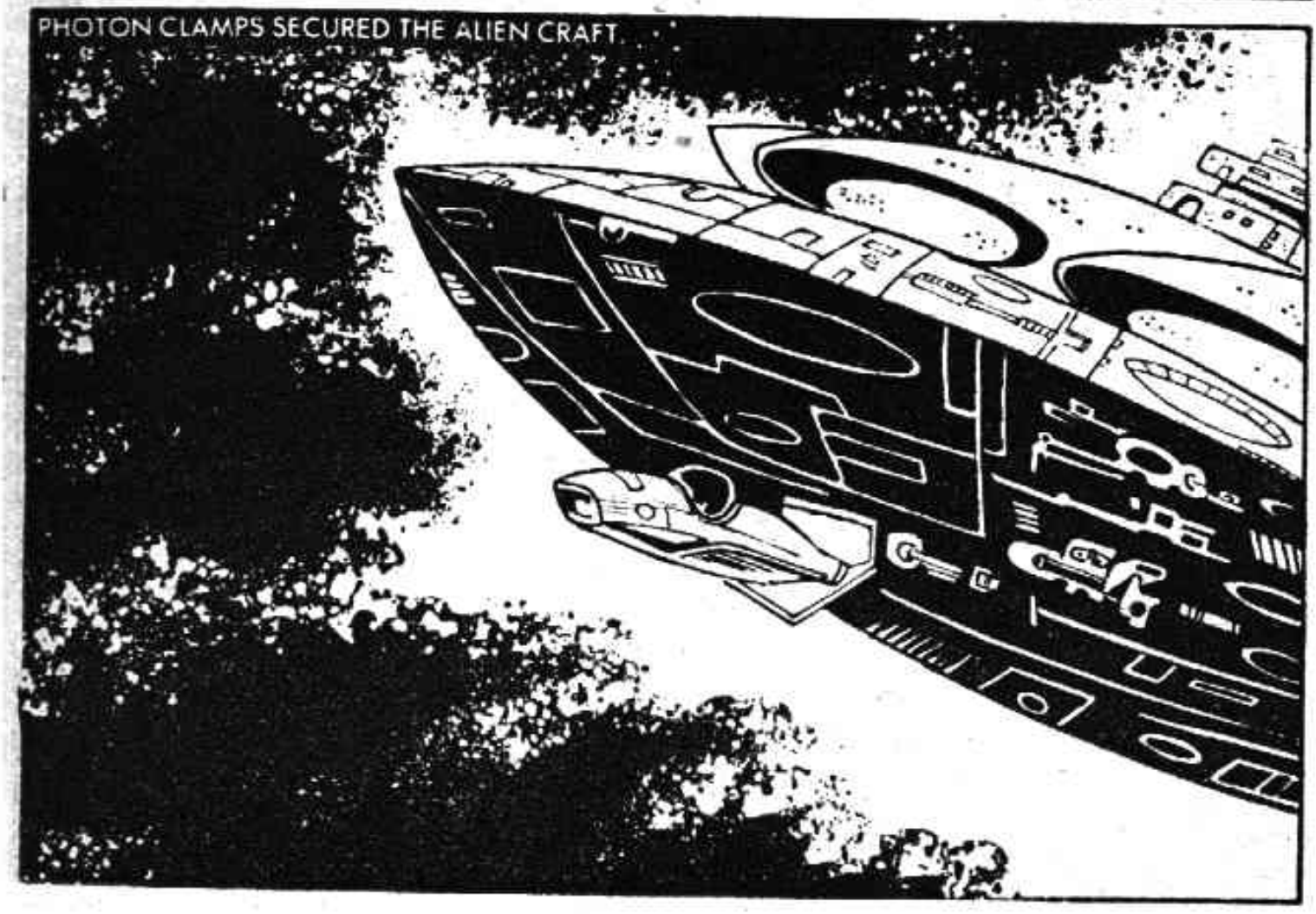
THEY'RE LUNATICS! LOOK HOW THEY DIVE INTO OUR SCREENS. THEY MUST KNOW THEY CAN'T GET AT US.
BUT CONSTANT BATTERING WILL WEAKEN OUR SCREENS.


PETRIE STEADILY REDUCED THE ATTACKERS' NUMBERS.

IT WOULD BE USEFUL IF WE COULD CAPTURE ONE OF THOSE SHIPS AND QUESTION THE CREW. IS IT POSSIBLE?
MAYBE!


WE'LL TAKE THIS ONE.

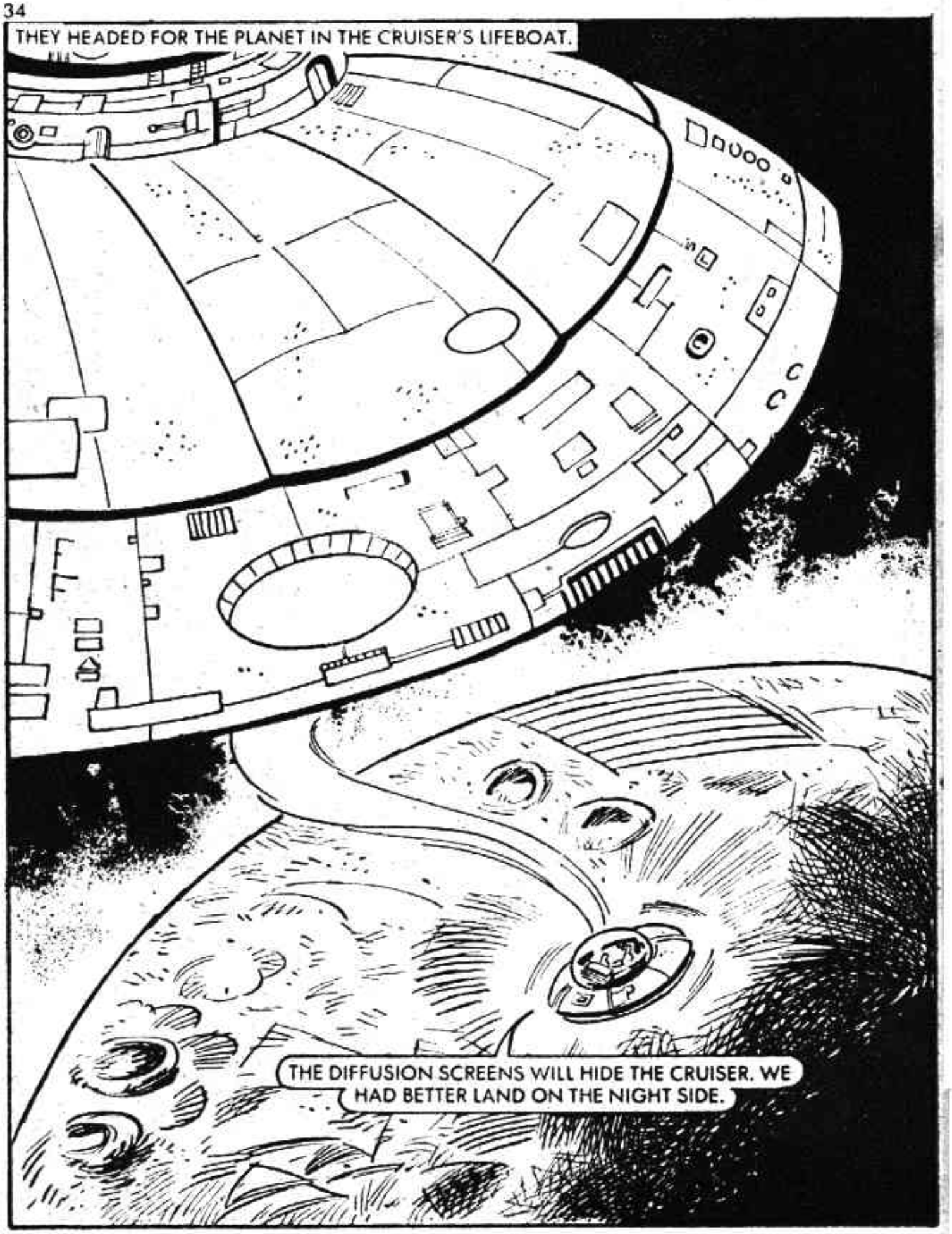

THE DOCKING BEAM GRIPPED THE ALIEN VESSEL AND DREW IT TO THE CRUISER.


PHOTON CLAMPS SECURED THE ALIEN CRAFT.

THE ALIEN PILOT WAS BROUGHT TO THE BRIDGE.
HE LOOKS AS IF HE'S IN A TRANCE.

CALEGH USED A NERVE HOLD TO SUBDUE THE ALIEN.

WHO ARE YOU? WHY DID YOU ATTACK US?
PROTECTION! DEFEND XISITH OR DIE! I FIGHT OR I DIE! XISITH TELL ME. FIGHT CONCORDAT OR . . .
HE'S DEAD!
KAN
CONDITIONED! HE TOLD US, FIGHT OR DIE. WE BEAT HIM SO HE DIED AS HE WAS TOLD. WE HAD BETTER TAKE A CLOSER LOOK AT THIS PLANET.


THEY HEADED FOR THE PLANET IN THE CRUISER'S LIFEBOAT.
THE DIFFUSION SCREENS WILL HIDE THE CRUISER. WE HAD BETTER LAND ON THE NIGHT SIDE.

THE LIFEBOAT LANDED IN THE TWILIGHT ZONE.
THE INFRA-RED SENSOR SHOWS SOME ACTIVITY IN THE VALLEY.

THERE'S THE SOURCE.
WE'VE CAUGHT UP WITH THEM AT LAST! NOW WE'LL SEE HOW THEY HANDLE AN ATTACK FROM THE REAR. COME ON!

PETRIE AND CALEGH TOOK A DEADLY TOLL.

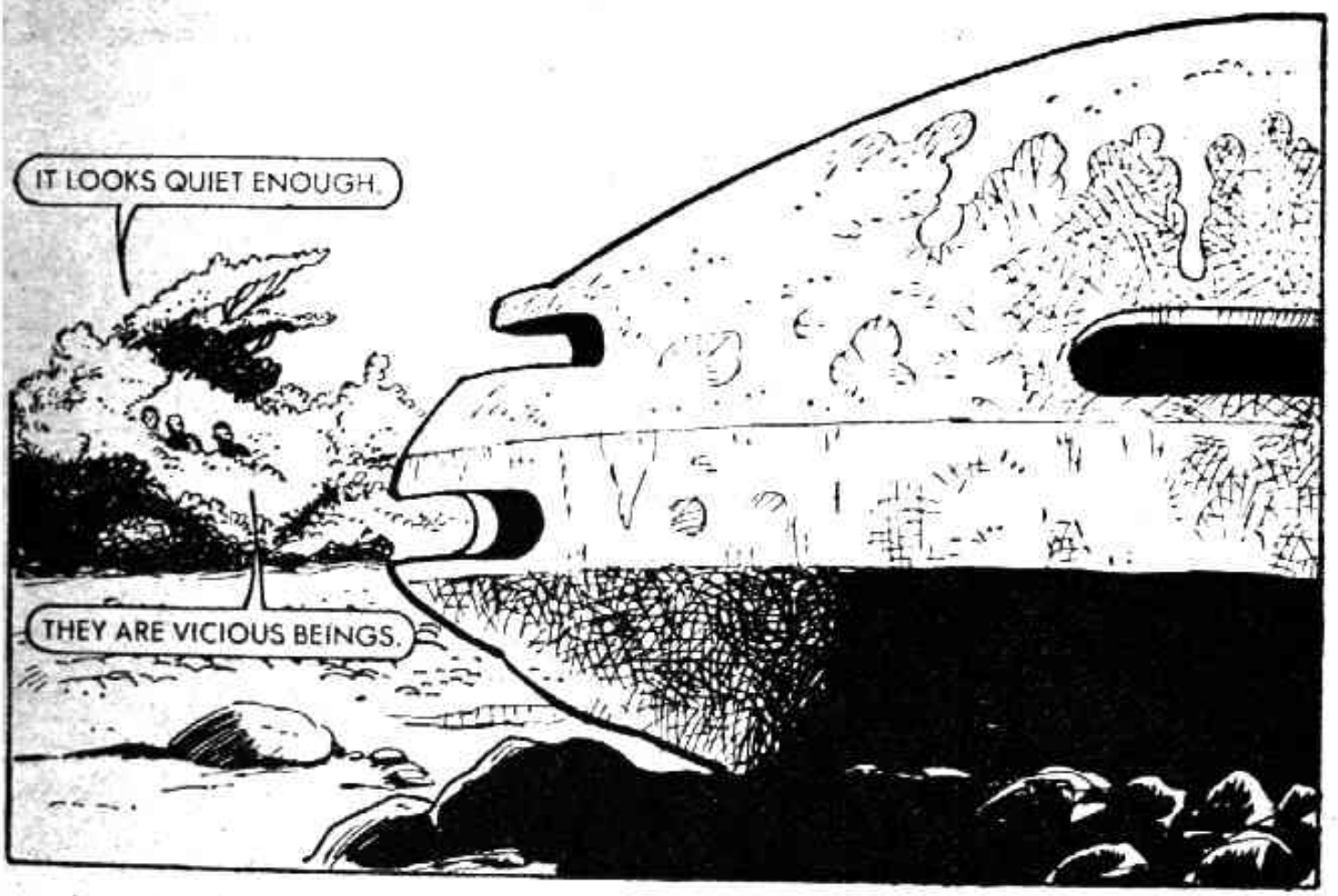
KEEP THEM PINNED DOWN WHILE I GET TO THEIR TRANSPORT.
HIGH INTESNITY SONIC GRENADES ARE IDEAL FOR CLOSE WORK.

WITH THE ALIENS DEFEATED, THE INHABITANTS OF THE PLANET APPEARED.

WITHOUT YOUR HELP WE WOULD NOW BE THE VICTIMS OF THE XISITH INVADERS. RATHA OF MELIOS OFFERS YOU THANKS.
WHO WERE THEY ANYWAY?
THEY CAME FROM THE XISITH SYSTEM AND MOST OF OUR PEOPLE WERE KILLED OR CAPTURED. WE ALONE FIGHT ON TO DESTROY THEIR INVASION FLEET WHICH IS ASSEMBLED ON MELIOS.
INVASION FLEET! WHO DO THEY INTEND TO INVADE?

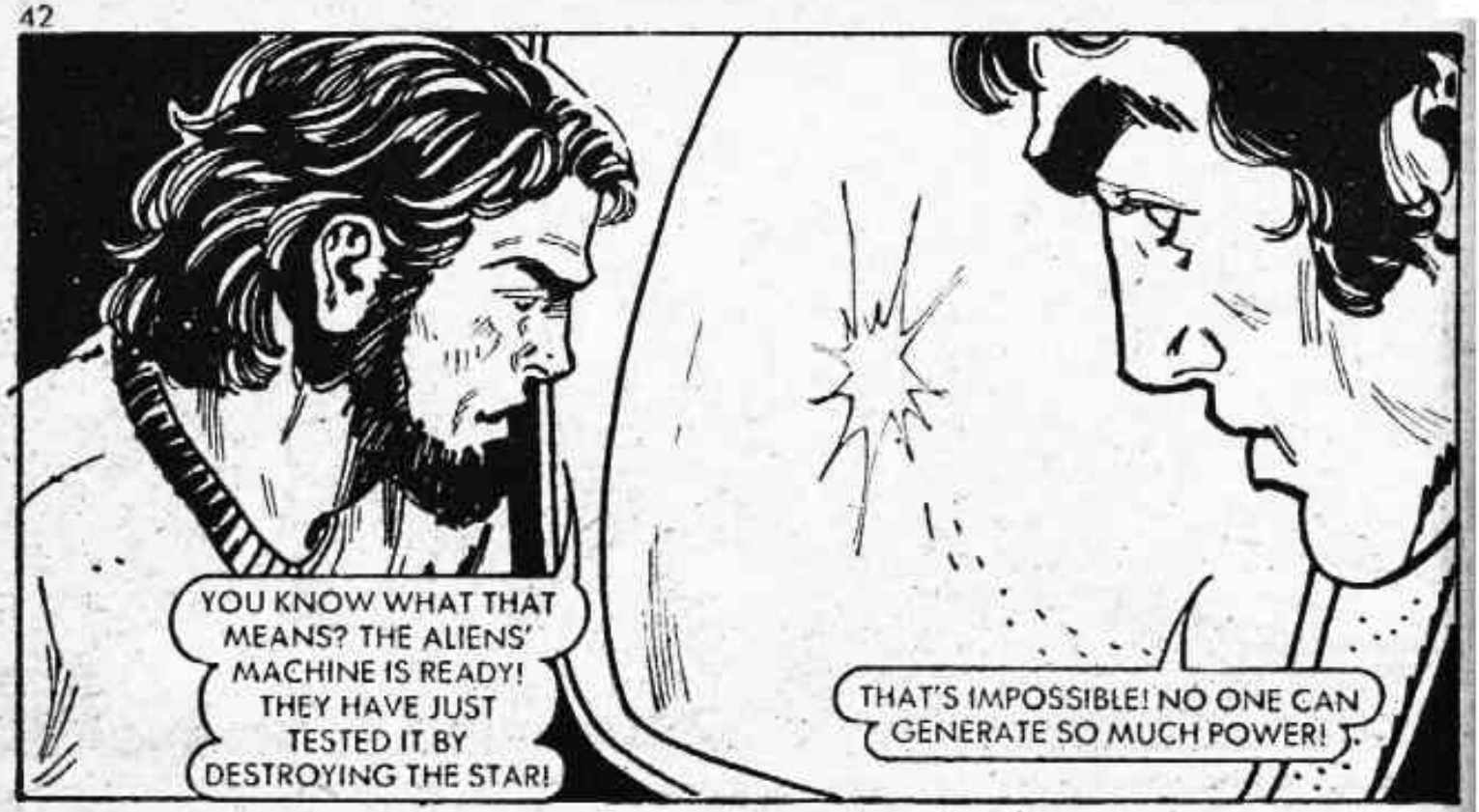
THEY WANT THE CONCORDAT! THEY WILL MOVE SOON WHEN THEIR INVINCIBLE WEAPON IS READY. THEN WE SHALL ALL PERISH!
WE CAN TAKE YOU TO THE BASE FROM WHICH THIS PATROL CAME. YOU MAY FIND SOMETHING OF USE TO YOU.

SOON THEY ARRIVED AT THE ALIENS' OUTPOST.



THEY STORMED THE OUTPOST —
TAKE EVERYTHING YOU CAN CARRY, MEN. QUICKLY NOW!
LOOK HERE CALEGH!
SPACE IS BECOMING LITTERED WITH THESE TRANSMITTERS!
SERIF IS ON THE COMMUNICATOR. HE WANTS US TO RETURN AT ONCE TO THE CRUISER.
WE MUST GO, RATHA. WE SHALL MEET AGAIN.
WE HAVE ENOUGH EQUIPMENT FROM THE GARRISON TO LAST OUT FOR A WHILE LONGER. GOOD FORTUNE GO WITH YOU.

PETRIE AND CALEGH RETURNED TO THE CRUISER.
WE HAVE LEARNED A LITTLE MORE. NOW LET'S SEE WHY SERIF IS IN A PANIC.
I HAVE DETECTED AN IMMENSE BURST OF RADIATION. I HAVE SEEN NOTHING LIKE IT BEFORE.
IT COMES FROM THAT TINY STAR.
OUR SENSORS SHOW NO STAR AT THAT SPOT!

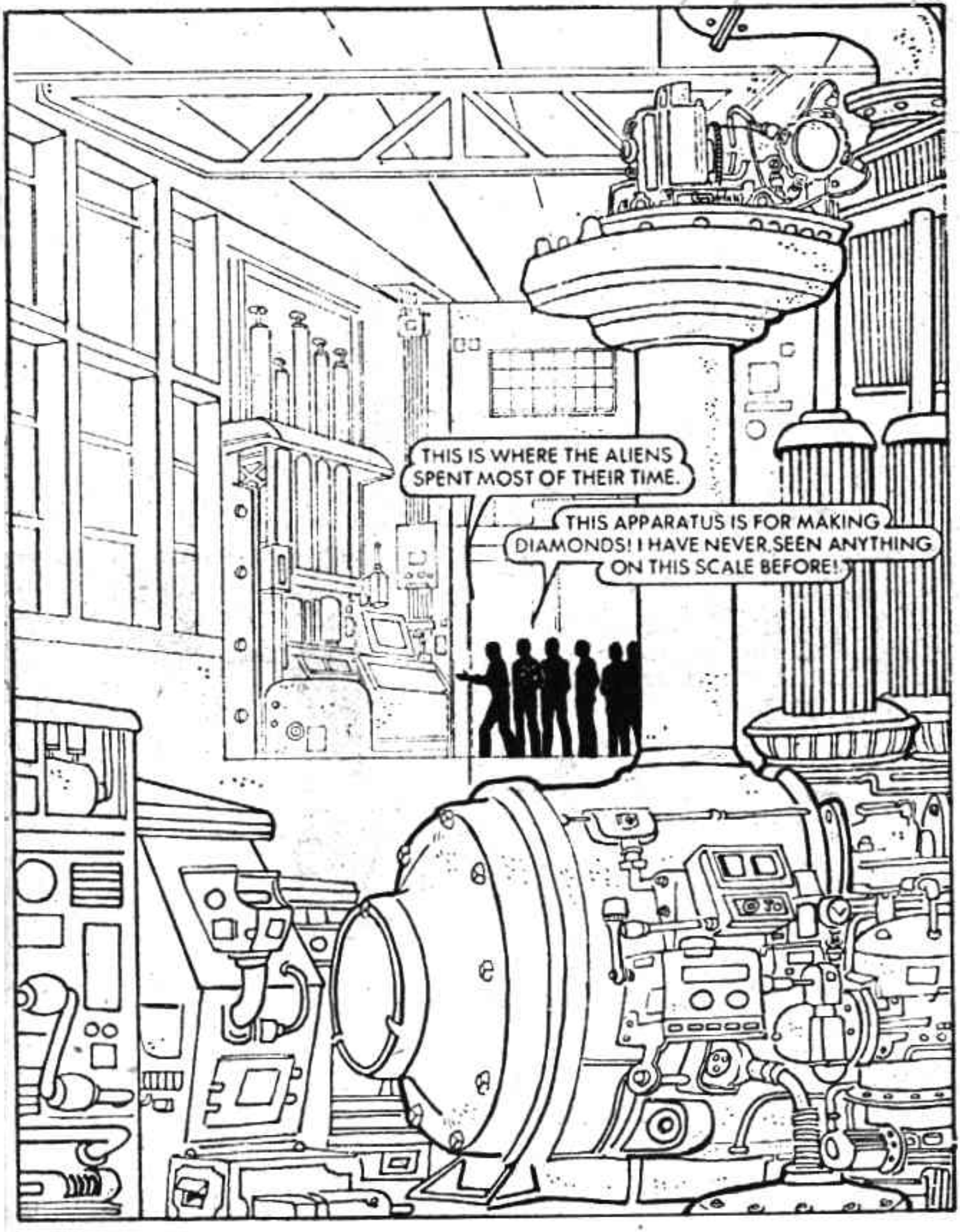

YOU KNOW WHAT THAT MEANS? THE ALIENS' MACHINE IS READY! THEY HAVE JUST TESTED IT BY DESTROYING THE STAR!
THAT'S IMPOSSIBLE! NO ONE CAN GENERATE SO MUCH POWER!

I CAN SEE NO SENSE IN IT AT ALL. THERE IS NO LOGIC. KANTHUS, ROGUS, EARTH, SADALMELEK AND HERE. THERE IS NO PATTERN. WHY SHOULD AN INVASION FORCE SPREAD ITSELF ALL OVER SPACE LIKE THIS? THERE MUST BE SOMETHING MORE THAT WE HAVE NOT SEEN!

SEE THE FOUR SUNS LIE AT THE CORNERS OF A SQUARE! THAT'S ODD!
ODD INDEED! SEE THE SUN OF KANTHUS! WHEN I JOIN IT TO THE OTHER FOUR I GET A PYRAMID! THE SHAPE OF THE PYRAMID OF PUGNARIA!

THE KANTHATOR SUN IS AT THE APEX OF THE PYRAMID. IT IS THERE THAT OUR SEARCH BEGAN. SO TO KANTHUS WE MUST RETURN.
THE RESEARCH PLANT WHICH ATTRACTED THE ALIENS MUST BEAR CLOSER EXAMINATION.
BACK ON KANTHUS THEY SOUGHT OUT THE MEN FROM THE RESEARCH PLANT.
. . . AND SO WE NEED YOUR HELP TO GET INTO THE PLANT TO FIND OUT WHAT INTERESTED THE ALIENS.
WE'LL HAVE YOU IN AFTER NIGHTFALL.

LATER —
THIS USED TO BE A SERVICE ENTRANCE. I HAVE AN ELECTRON ANTI-LASER KEY.
NOT A SOUND! THESE GUARDS SHOOT AND DON'T THINK ABOUT IT.


THIS IS WHERE THE ALIENS SPENT MOST OF THEIR TIME.
THIS APPARATUS IS FOR MAKING DIAMONDS! I HAVE NEVER SEEN ANYTHING ON THIS SCALE BEFORE!

DIAMONDS! BUT THEY ARE NOT OF GOOD QUALITY. THEY BEAR FLAWS.
A GUARD!
FREEZE!

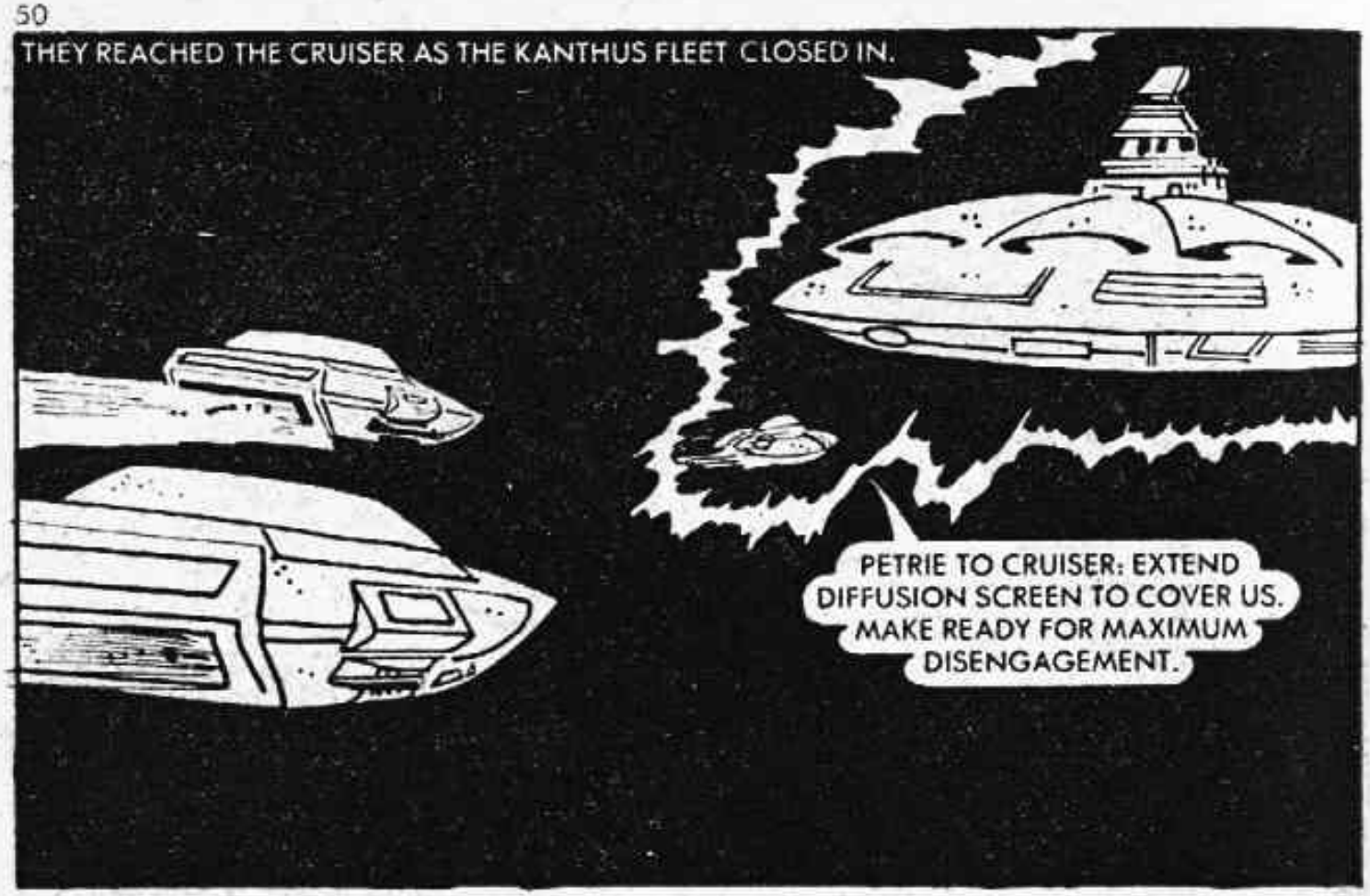
ALL CLEAR IN HERE. LOOKS LIKE SOME KIND OF CONTROL ROOM.
PERHAPS WE CAN FIND OUT WHAT THEIR SCHEME IS.

CALEGH AND SERIF STUDIED THE CONTROL COMPUTER.
SEE THIS SEQUENCE? THIS MUST BE A REFERENCE TO THE MEMORY SEGMENT CONTROLLING THE DIAMOND PROJECT.
HURRY IT UP, PROF. SECURITY PATROL REGULARLY AROUND HERE.

DO A FAST TRANSCRIPTION ONTO TAPE SO THAT WE CAN TAKE IT AWAY AND GET OUT OF HERE.
WE'VE GOT VISITORS, PROF. ARE YOU READY?
WE HAVE IT ALL ON TAPE. LET'S GO.
IT'S CLEAR OUTSIDE FOR THE MOMENT. KEEP LOW AND MOVE FAST.

BACK TO THE SHIP.

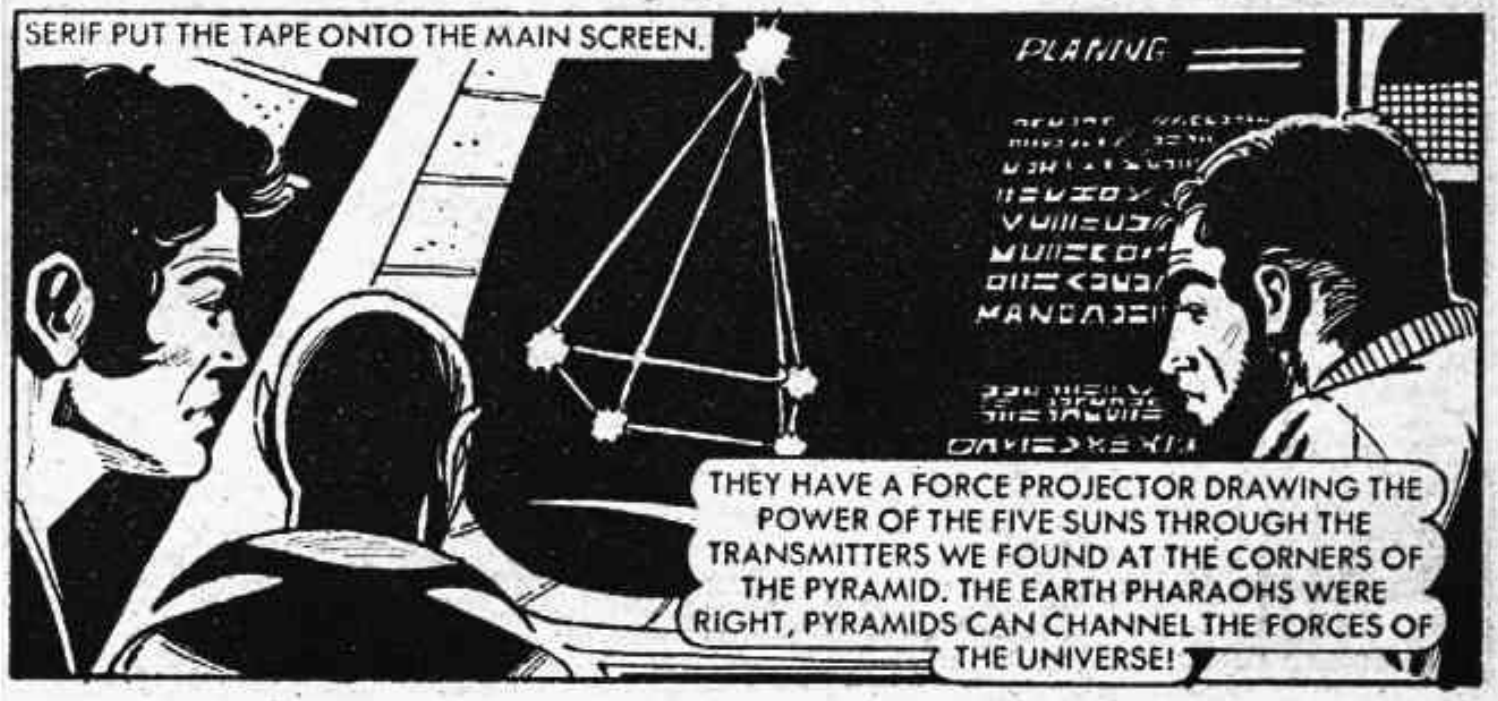
AS THEY LEFT THE PLANT, THE GUARD SOUNDED THE ALERT.
CRUISE FLEET, INTERCEPT — THEY MUST NOT ESCAPE.


THEY REACHED THE CRUISER AS THE KANTHUS FLEET CLOSED IN.
PETRIE TO CRUISER: EXTEND DIFFUSION SCREEN TO COVER US. MAKE READY FOR MAXIMUM DISENGAGEMENT.

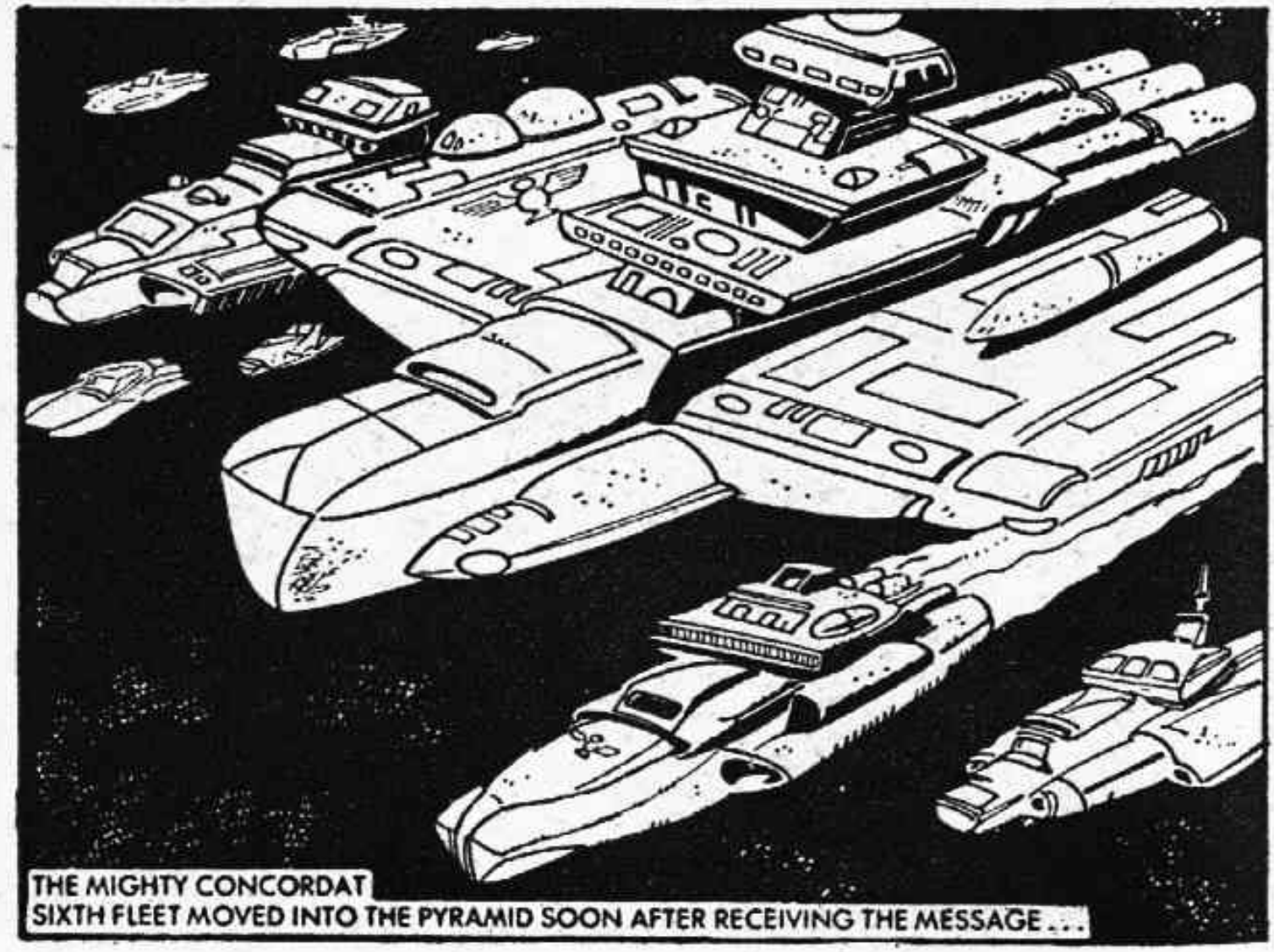
WE CAN EASILY OVERRUN THE SECURITY SHIPS IN BOTH SPEED AND RANGE.
WHAT'S THAT AHEAD?

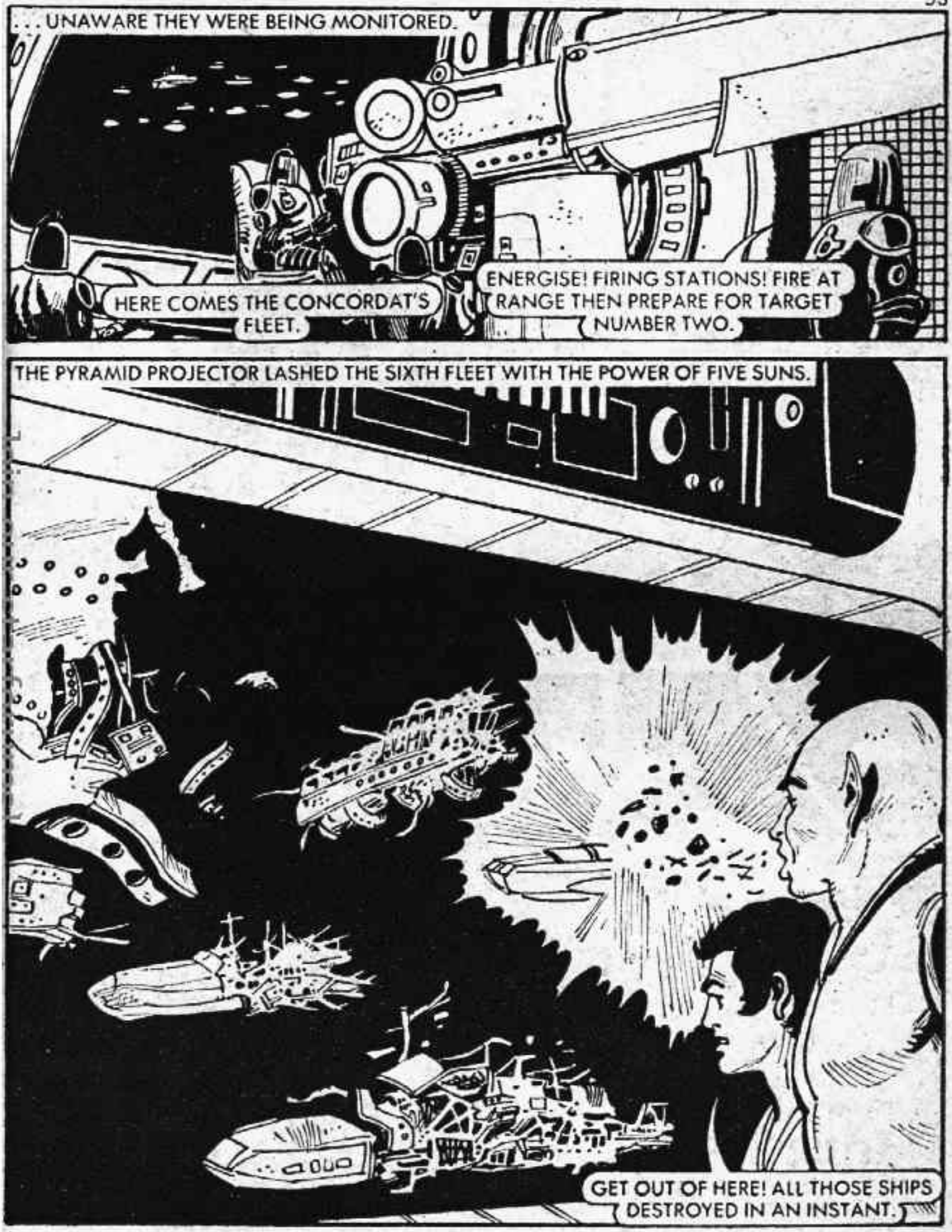
ALIEN SHIPS! RED ALERT! ALL SCREENS FUNCTION. MAXIMUM BOOST. THE TIME IS NOT RIGHT TO DO BATTLE.
THEIR SPACE WARPER WON'T WORK IN THE ION CLOUD. HEAD FOR IT.

WE ARE SAFE.
PERHAPS WE SHALL NOW HAVE TIME TO EXAMINE THE MEMORY TAPE FROM KANTHOS, CALEGH?

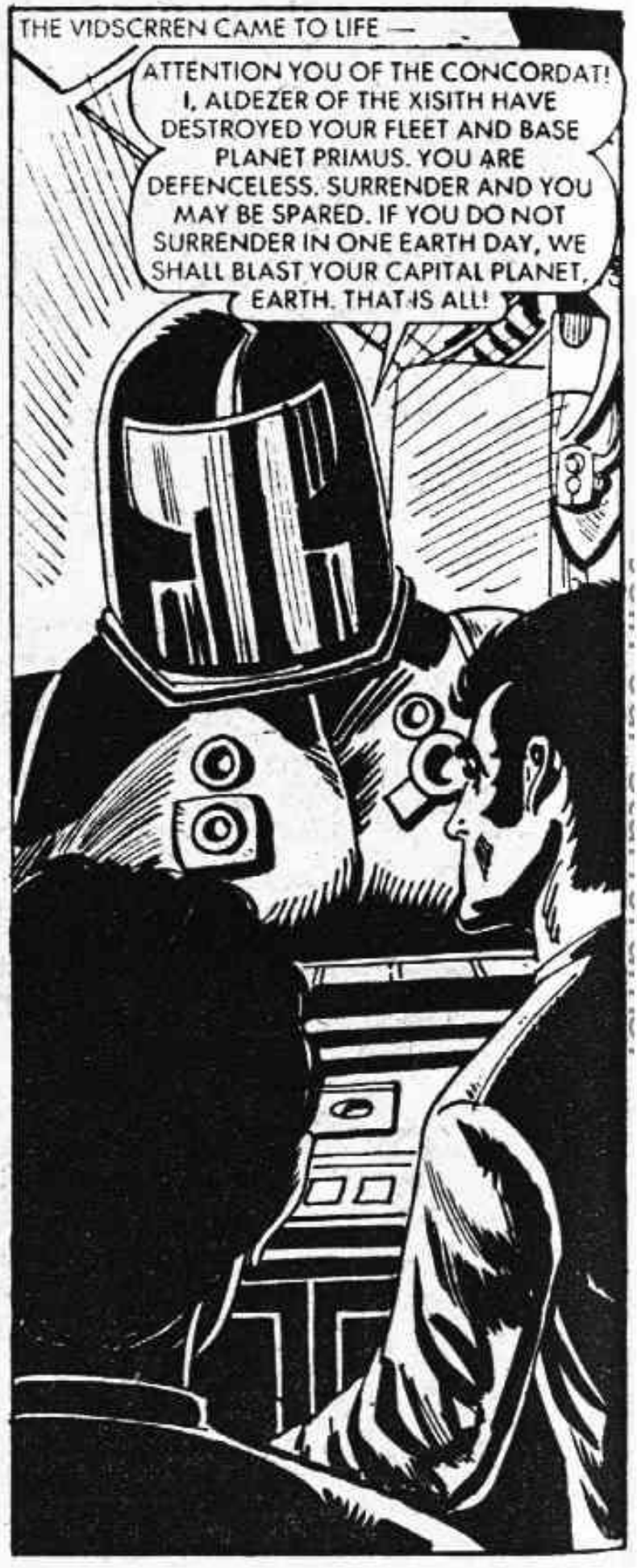

SERIF PUT THE TAPE ONTO THE MAIN SCREEN.
PLANNE
THEY HAVE A FORCE PROJECTOR DRAWING THE POWER OF THE FIVE SUNS THROUGH THE TRANSMITTERS WE FOUND AT THE CORNERS OF THE PYRAMID. THE EARTH PHARAOHS WERE RIGHT, PYRAMIDS CAN CHANNEL THE FORCES OF THE UNIVERSE!

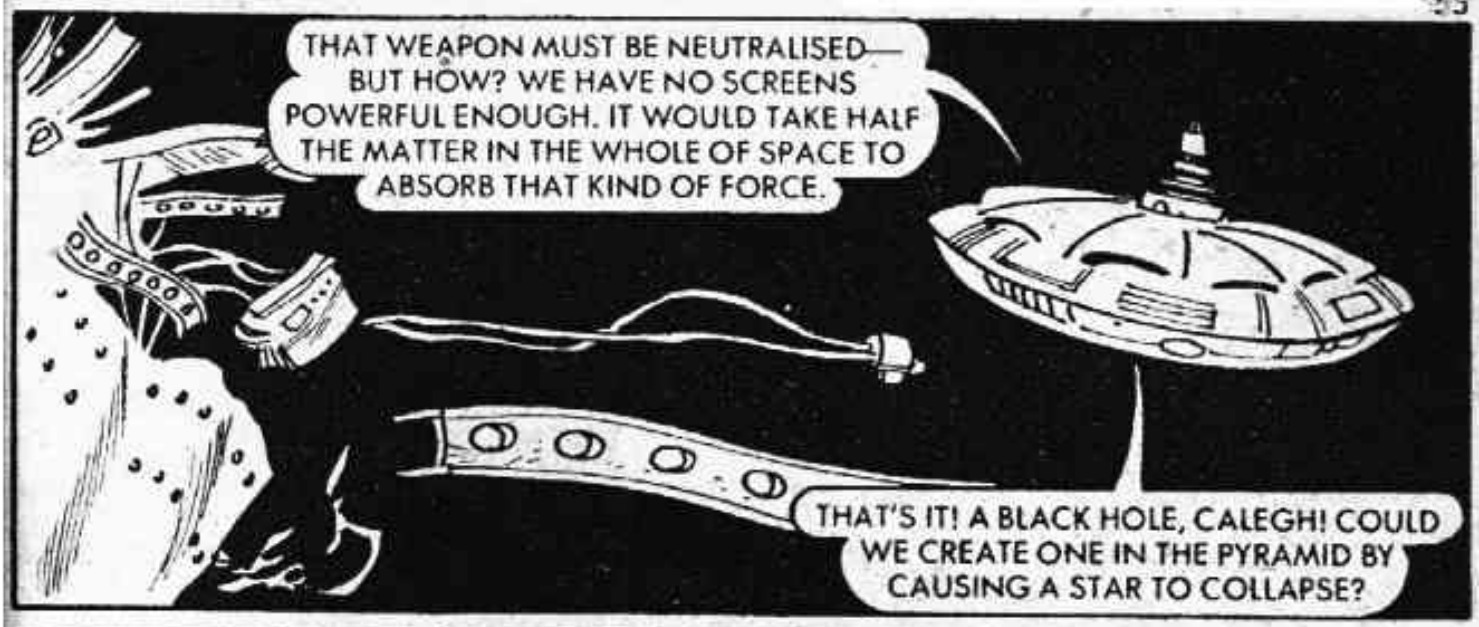
AND THE PYRAMID OF PUGNARIA IS A DIAMOND —AN ENERGY AMPLIFIER. THE INVINCIBLE WEAPON!
IT WILL BE SITED AT THE GEOMETRIC CENTRE OF THE PYRAMID!
INFORM CONCORDAT SPACE NAVY COMMAND AT ONCE. THAT PROJECTOR MUST BE DESTROYED.


THE MIGHTY CONCORDAT SIXTH FLEET MOVED INTO THE PYRAMID SOON AFTER RECEIVING THE MESSAGE . . .


. . . UNAWARE THEY WERE BEING MONITORED.
HERE COMES THE CONCORDAT'S FLEET.
ENERGISE! FIRING STATIONS! FIRE AT RANGE THEN PREPARE FOR TARGET NUMBER TWO.
THE PYRAMID PROJECTOR LASHED THE SIXTH FLEET WITH THE POWER OF FIVE SUNS.
GET OUT OF HERE! ALL THOSE SHIPS DESTROYED IN AN INSTANT.

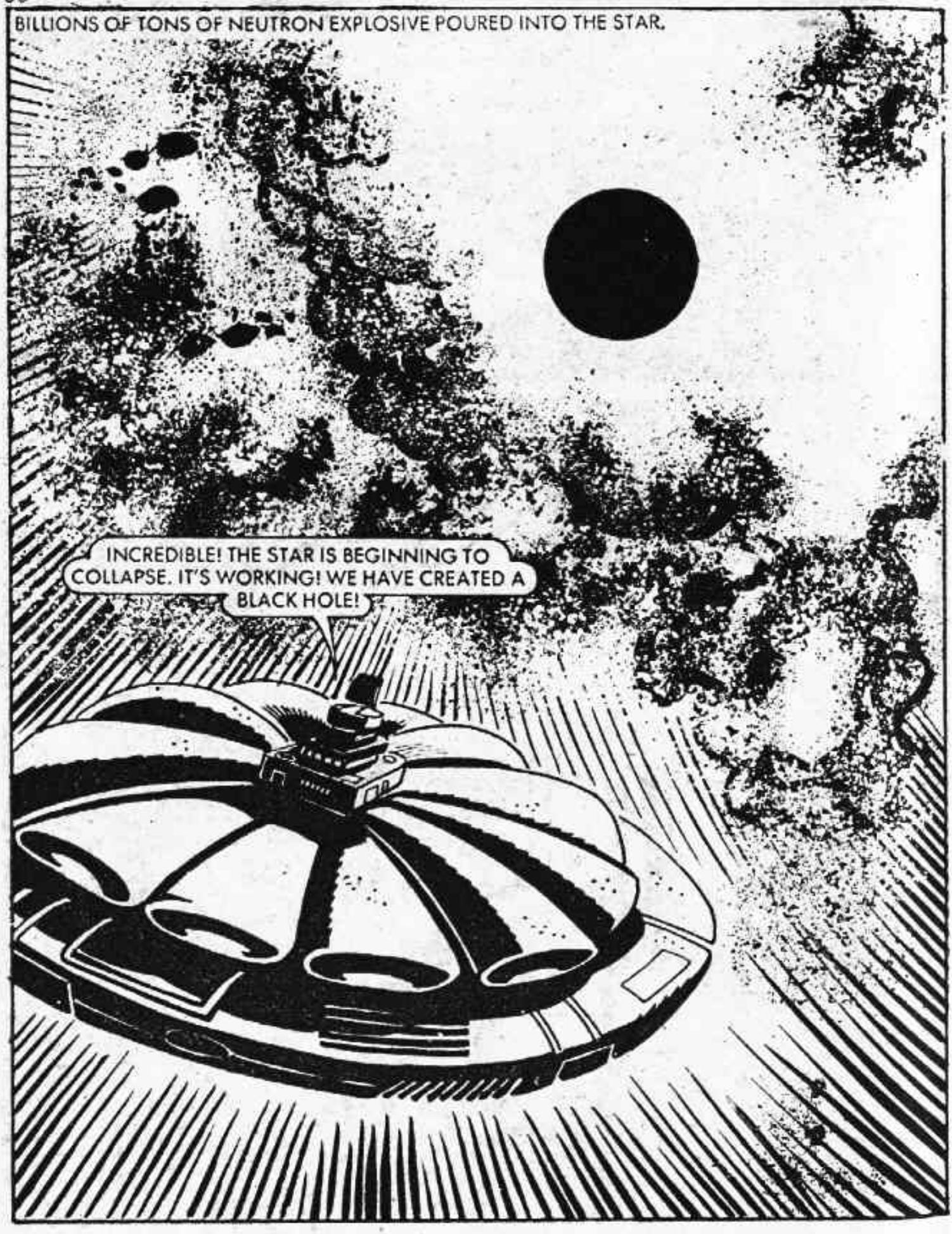
WHAT A MACHINE! WE CANNOT RESIST SUCH IMMENSE POWER.
THIS IS THE MOST DANGEROUS THREAT WE HAVE EVER FACED.


THE VIDSCRREN CAME TO LIFE —
ATTENTION YOU OF THE CONCORDAT! I, ALDEZER OF THE XISITH HAVE DESTROYED YOUR FLEET AND BASE PLANET PRIMUS. YOU ARE DEFENCELESS. SURRENDER AND YOU MAY BE SPARED. IF YOU DO NOT SURRENDER IN ONE EARTH DAY, WE SHALL BLAST YOUR CAPITAL PLANET, EARTH. THAT IS ALL!


THAT WEAPON MUST BE NEUTRALISED— BUT HOW? WE HAVE NO SCREENS POWERFUL ENOUGH. IT WOULD TAKE HALF THE MATTER IN THE WHOLE OF SPACE TO ABSORB THAT KIND OF FORCE.
THAT'S IT! A BLACK HOLE, CALEGH! COULD WE CREATE ONE IN THE PYRAMID BY CAUSING A STAR TO COLLAPSE?

THERE IS A RED GIANT TWO LIGHT YEARS FROM THE PROJECTOR. IF WE LOAD OUR FASTEST SHIP WITH ALL THE NEUTRON MATERIAL WE HAVE AND FIRE IT INTO THE STAR, THE EXPLOSION COULD CAUSE A BLACK HOLE!
IT'S A CHANCE. I'LL SET IT UP. IF IT WORKS IT WILL DRAW AWAY ALL THE POWER OF THE PROJECTOR.

THE LAST HOPE OF THE CONCORDAT STREAKED STARWARDS ON ITS DEADLY MISSION.


BILLIONS OF TONS OF NEUTRON EXPLOSIVE POURED INTO THE STAR.
INCREDIBLE! THE STAR IS BEGINNING TO COLLAPSE. IT'S WORKING! WE HAVE CREATED A BLACK HOLE!

ALIEN SHIPS AHEAD! BATTLE SCREENS UP!
THE PUGNARION FLEET IS ALSO APPROACHING FROM THE REAR QUARTER.

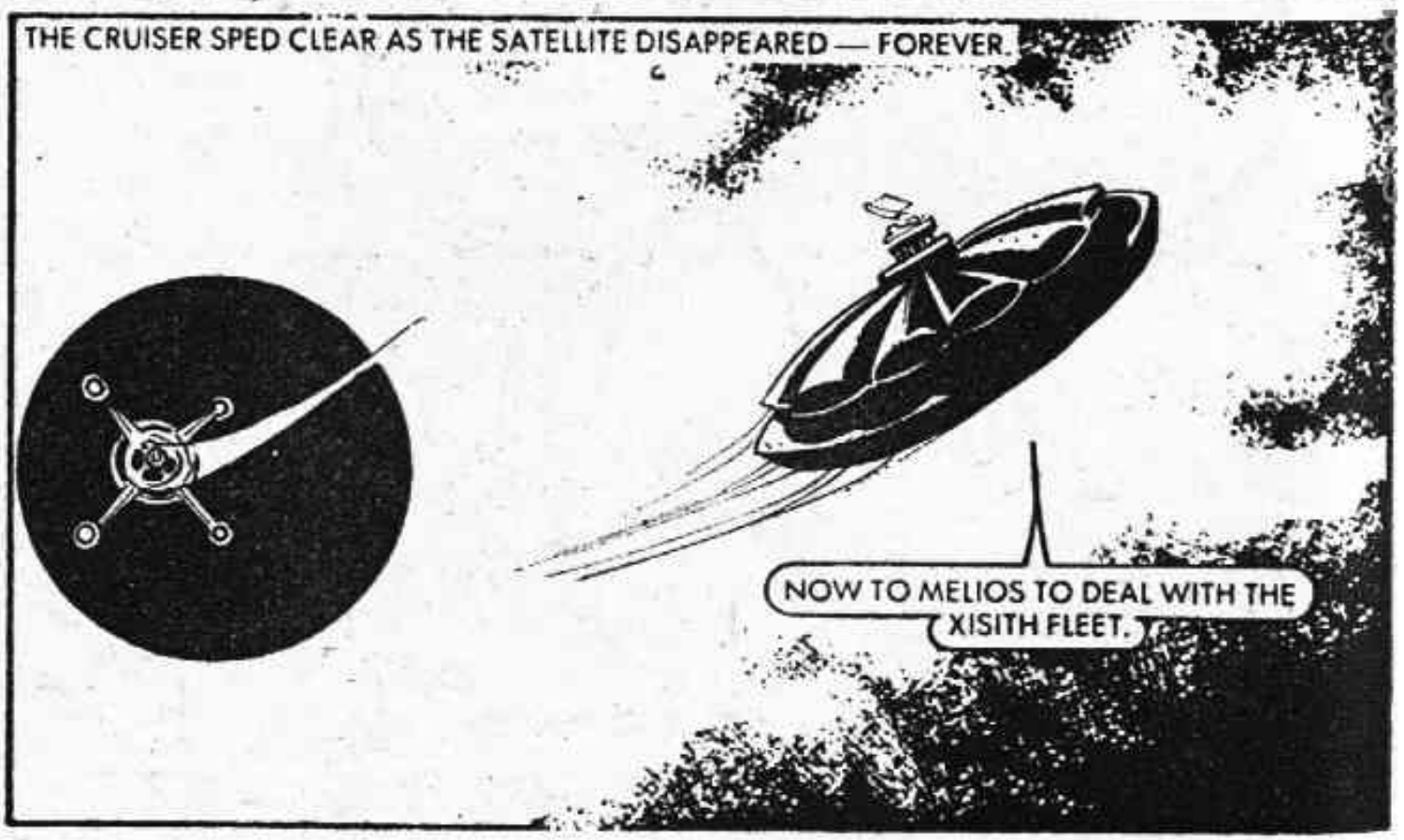
THE XISITH PROJECTOR SATELLITE AT THE CENTRE OF THE PYRAMID WAS UNDER ATTACK.
LOCK ONTO THE SIDE. WE'LL CUT A WAY STRAIGHT IN THROUGH THE SHELL.

THEY ENTERED THE SATELLITE EASILY —
QUICKLY, OVERRUN THEM BEFORE THEY CAN GET ORGANISED. WE MUST GET TO THE CONTROL ROOM AND THE PUGNARION DIAMOND.
GO AHEAD—I'LL FIX THIS ONE!

EVEN IF WE GET THE PUGNARION DIAMOND THE RESIDUAL ENERGY WILL BE ENOUGH TO FINISH EARTH.
I KNOW! MY BET IS THAT THE PUGNARION DIAMOND IS LOCATED HERE IN THE PROJECTION TUBE, BUT IT'S HEAVY WITH RADIATION.
RADIATION HAS A MINIMAL EFFECT ON ME. I'LL TRY TO RETRIEVE THE DIAMOND.
THE SATELLITE IS MOVING TOWARDS THE BLACK HOLE, WE ARE BEING SUCKED IN!

THERE IT IS! NEARLY GOT IT!

COME ON! ANY MORE DELAY AND THE GRAVITATIONAL PULL OF THE BLACK HOLE WILL TRAP US.


THE CRUISER SPED CLEAR AS THE SATELLITE DISAPPEARED — FOREVER.
NOW TO MELIOS TO DEAL WITH THE XISITH FLEET.

THE CRUISER LANDED AGAIN ON MELIOS
IT IS THE CONCORDAT SHIP RETURNED.
WE HAVE RETURNED TO DESTROY THE XISITH FLEET. CAN WE RELY UPON YOUR HELP?
OF COURSE, BUT WE ARE FEW IN NUMBER. THERE ARE MANY THOUSANDS OF THE XISITH AND THEY ARE HEAVILY ARMED.
PERHAPS WE CAN USE THEIR OWN WEAPONS AGAINST THEM. REMEMBER THE TRANSMITTER AT THE GARRISON? LET'S TAKE ANOTHER LOOK AT IT, I HAVE AN IDEA.

THE HASTILY ERECTED MACHINE WAS TAKEN TO THE XISITH H.Q.

WITH THE TRANSMITTER IN PLACE, CALEGH LASHED THE BASE WITH THE ENERGY OF THE UNIVERSE.
GET ALL THE SPACE SHIPS, CALEGH. NONE MUST ESCAPE.
GET THEM MEN!

KILL THAT CANNON. IT WILL DESTROY US ALL.

IT'S BEEN DONE FOR US! THE PUGNARIONS! THEY WERE QUICK TO TRACK US DOWN.

THE PUGNARIONS QUICKLY FINISHED OFF THE XISITH, AND LANDED.

BACK ON EARTH THEY WERE BROUGHT BEFORE THE PUGNARION COUNCIL—
YOU THREE MEN HAVE PRESERVED THE UNITY OF THE CONCORDAT AND ARE DESERVING OF THE HIGHEST PRAISE. YOU WILL BE MY PERSONAL GUESTS AT THE AMITY DAY CELEBRATIONS TOMORROW.

NEXT DAY —
. . . AND SO, PEOPLE OF THE CONCORDAT, IN RECOGNITION OF THEIR CONTRIBUTION TO THE DOWNFALL OF THE XISITH INVADERS, I COMMIT THE PUGNARION SPACE FLEET TO THE CONCORDAT FOR ALL TIME.
AND SO THE CONCORDAT PROVED THAT CO-OPERATION AND UNDERSTANDING WAS THE ONLY ROUTE TO PEACE.

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NOW THAT YOU'VE READ THIS

DON'T FORGET THAT THERE'S ANOTHER ONE THIS MONTH

IT'S ON SALE IN YOUR NEWSAGENT'S NOW!

STARBLAZERS 7
EARTH SATELLITES

Landsat, launched by America on July 23, 1972, helps the management of Earth's natural resources. The photographs provide important information on agriculture, the environment, forestry, geology, land use, marine resources and heat capacity mapping. They are taken using a special device which scans the ground producing a photo in false, detailed colour which can be analysed by a computer.

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